



# BUBBLEGUM CRISIS

GRAND  
MAL

TM

**series editors**  
JOHN WEEKS &  
EDWARD MARTIN III

**collection editor**  
LYNN ADAIR

**collection design manager**  
BRIAN GOGOLIN

**collection designer**  
SCOTT FUENTES

# BUBBLEGUM CRISIS

GRAND  
MAL

story • pencils • inks

ADAM WARREN

additional inks

ROBERT DEJESUS

HARRY CANDELARIO

DAVE JOHNSON

TOM RANEY

KARL STORY

BRAD VANCATA

colors

JOE ROSAS

lettering

TOMOKO SAITO

with an introduction by

KENICHI SONODA



DARK HORSE COMICS®

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publisher  
**NEIL HANKERSON**  
executive vp  
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vp of sales & marketing  
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BUBBLEGUM CRISIS™: GRAND MAL

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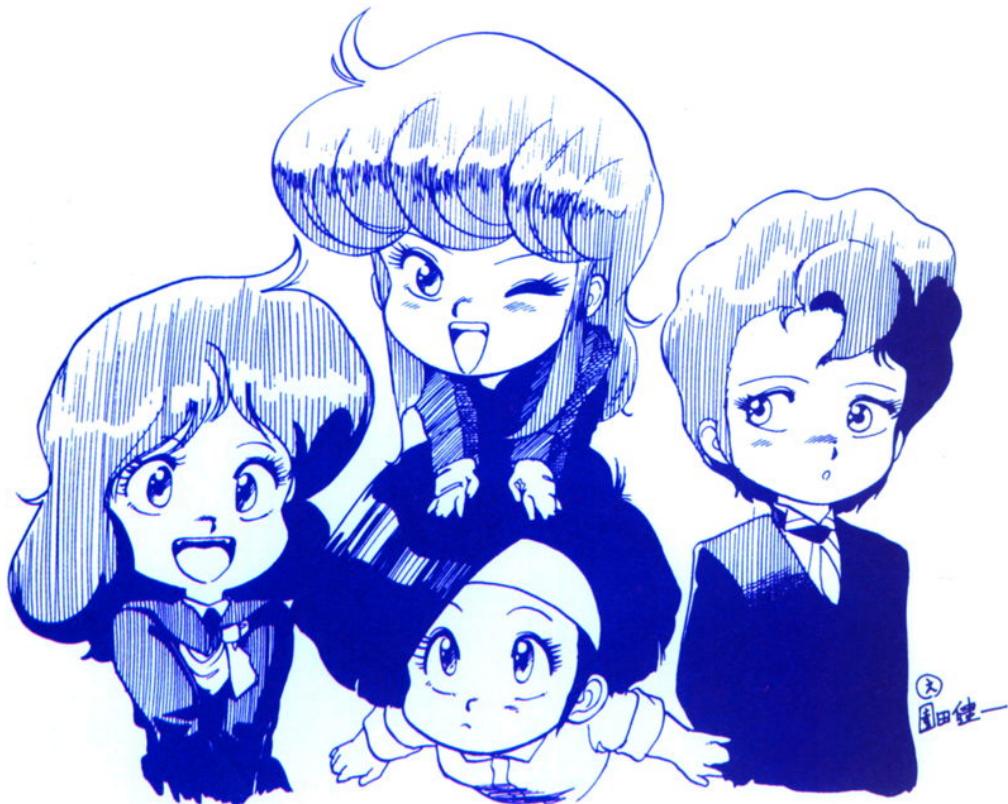


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Adam's slow and steady efforts at drawing  
otaku\*-type manga have once again borne fruit!  
Although **Bubblegum Crisis** is just a fond  
memory to me now, it gives me great pleasure  
to see the characters I designed make their  
appearance in America.

Good job, Adam!  
Keep on drawing!  
I'm behind you all the way!

\*dedicated fan

園田健一

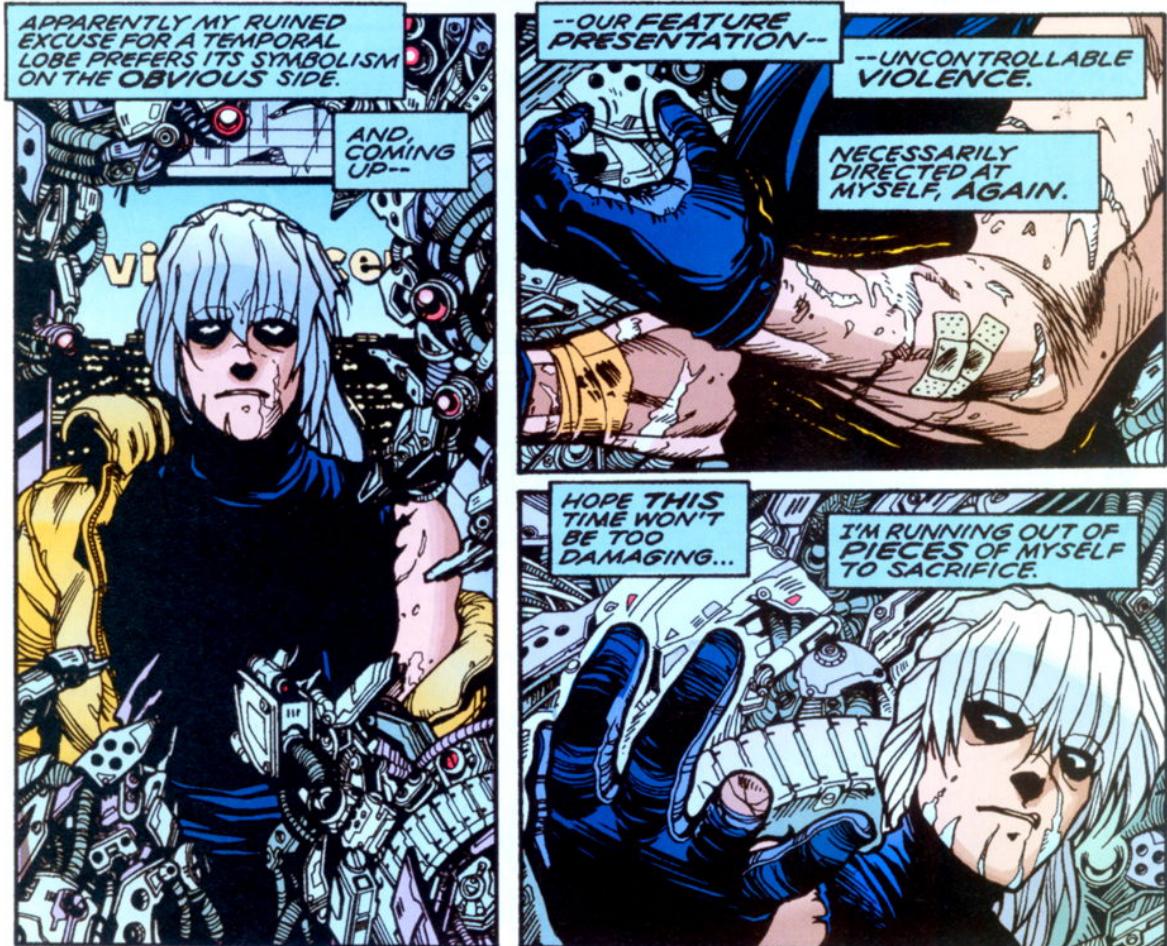
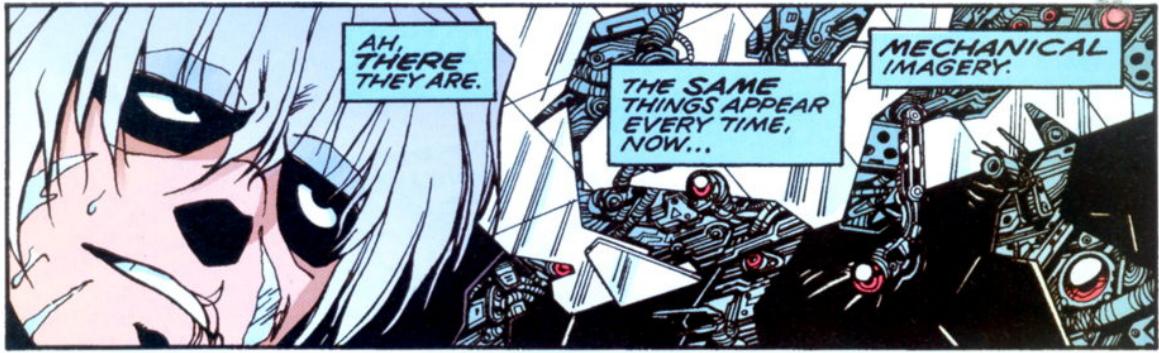
—Kenichi Sonoda

(Who has been mired in the depths of Doom for three months now . . . )

# CHAPTER ONE











"WHO THE HELL  
IS GENOM?"  
-U.S. PRESIDENT  
DEIRDRE SHAW

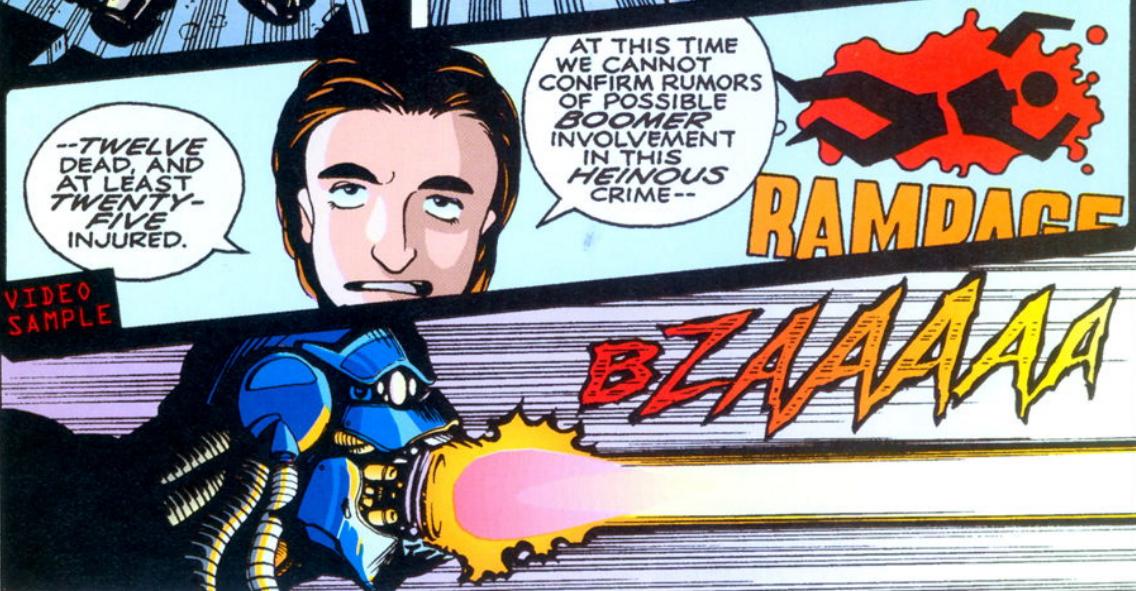
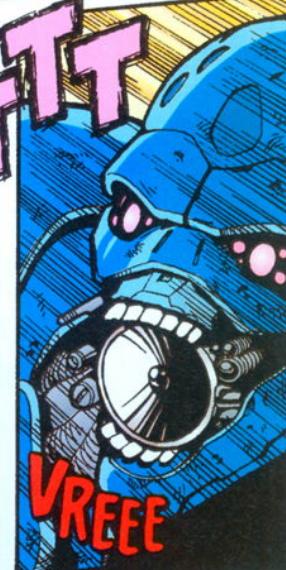


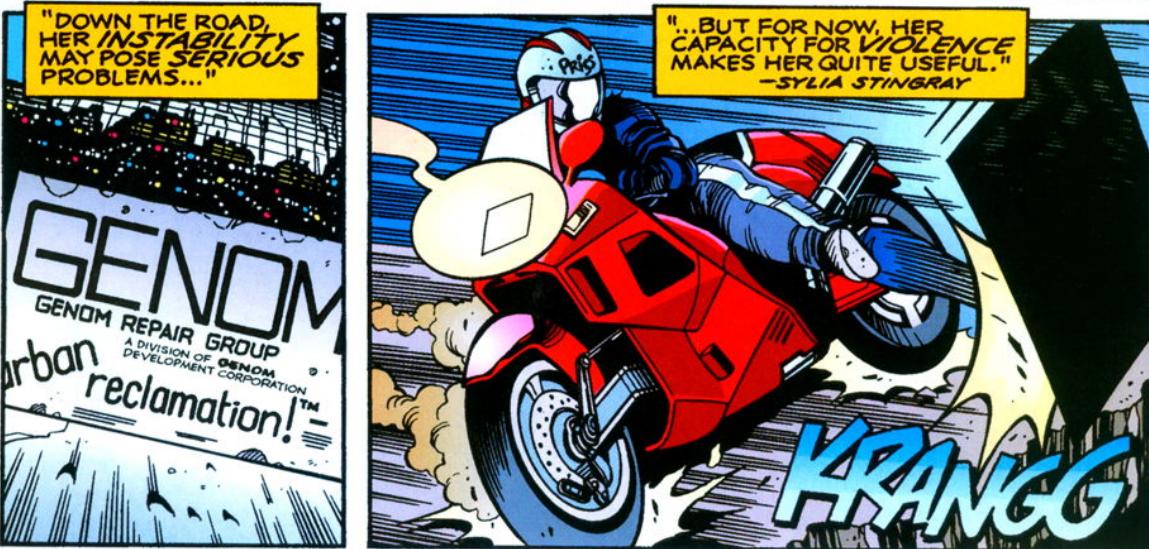
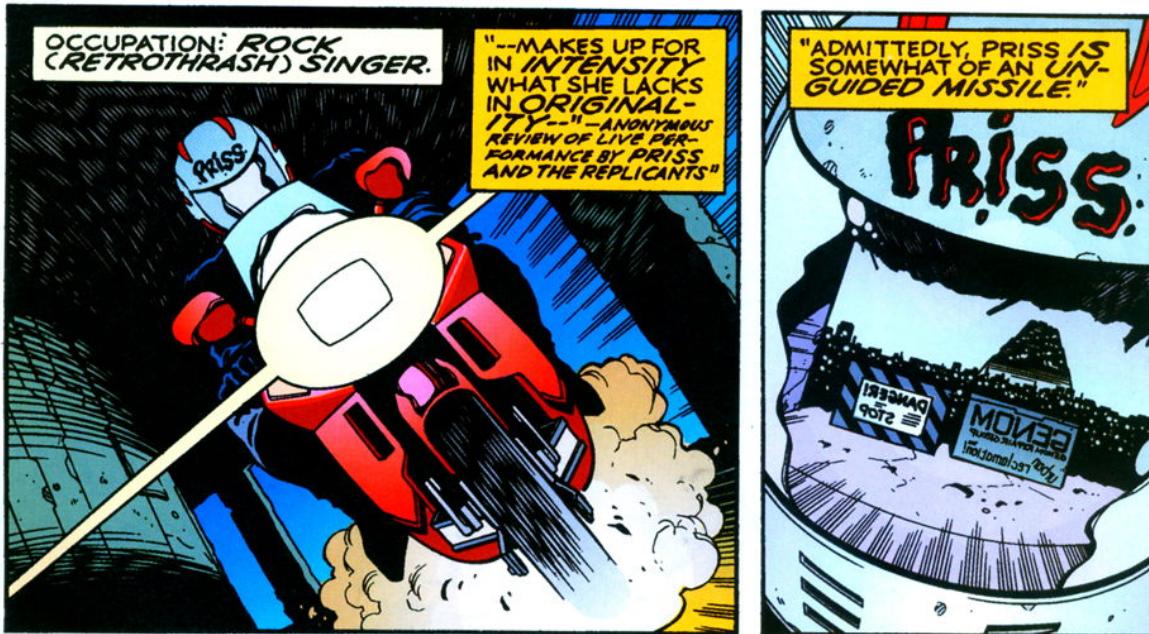


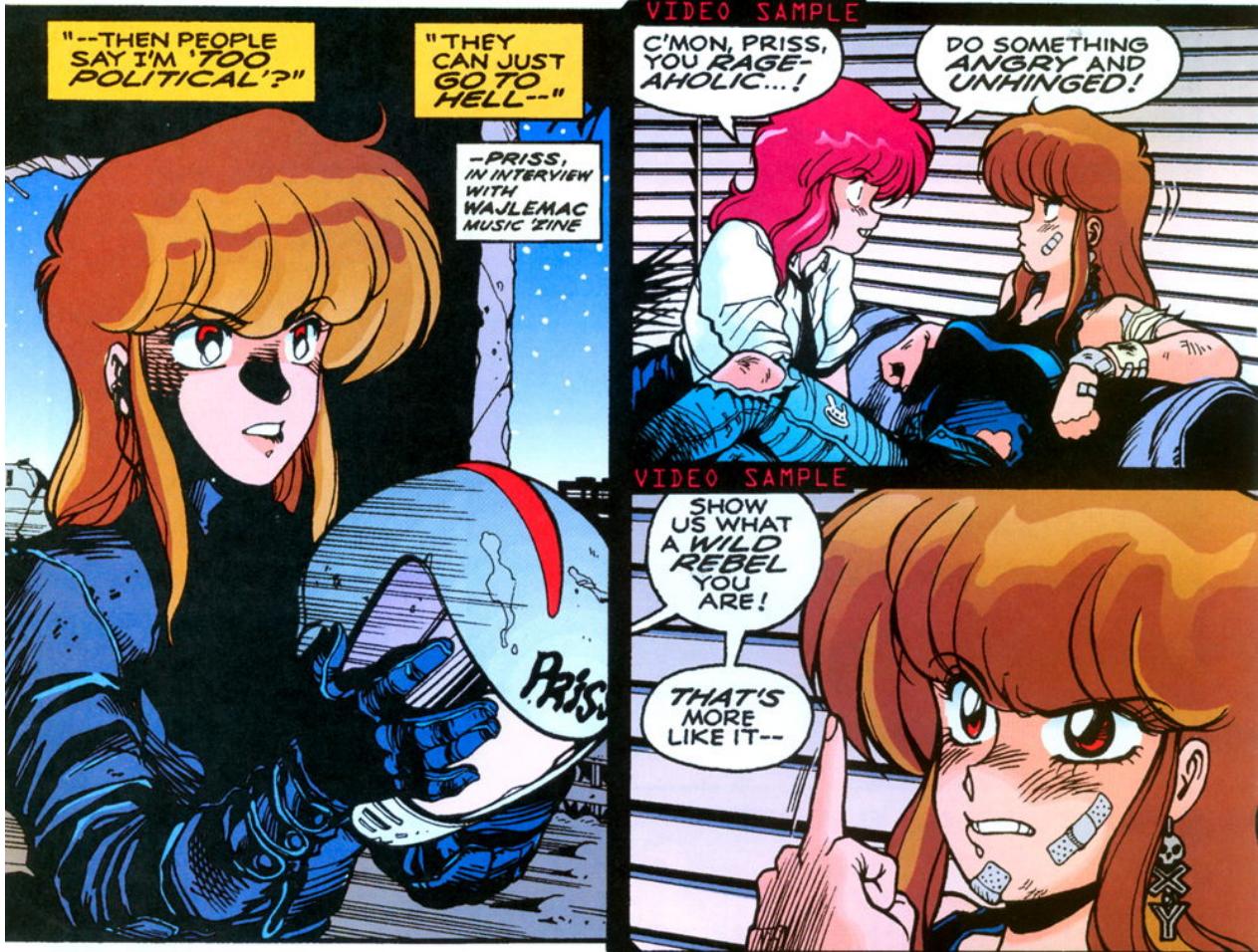
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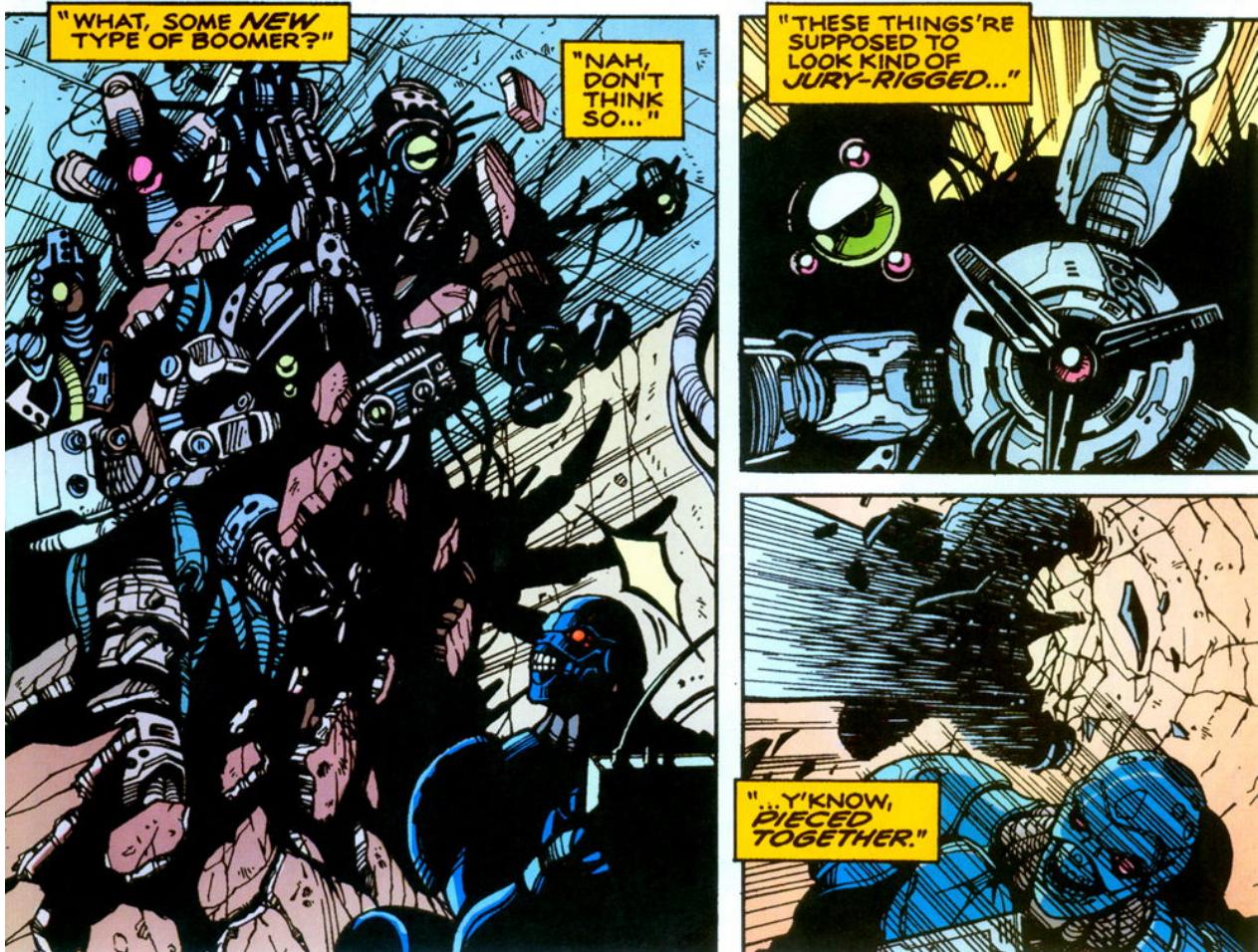
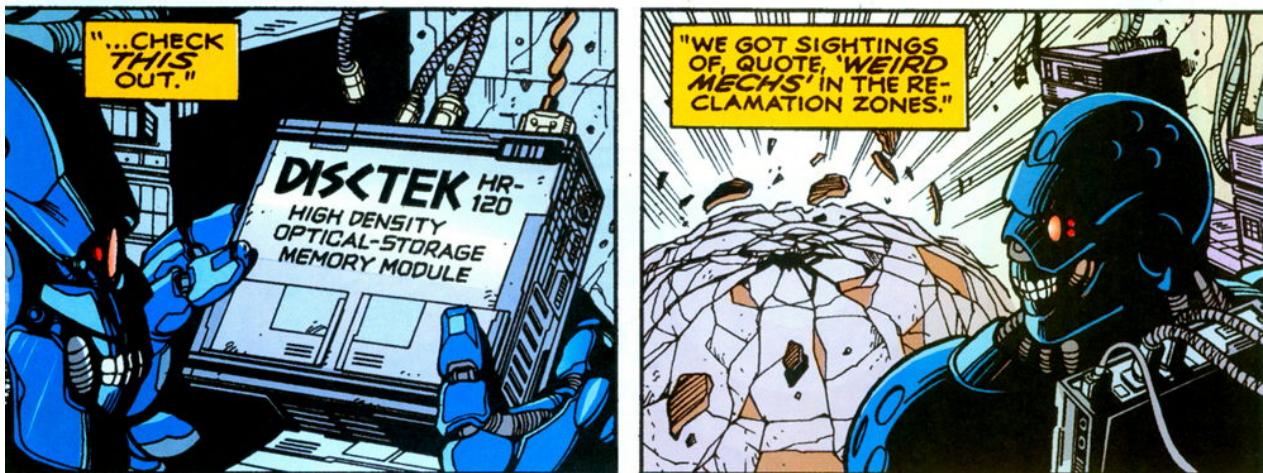
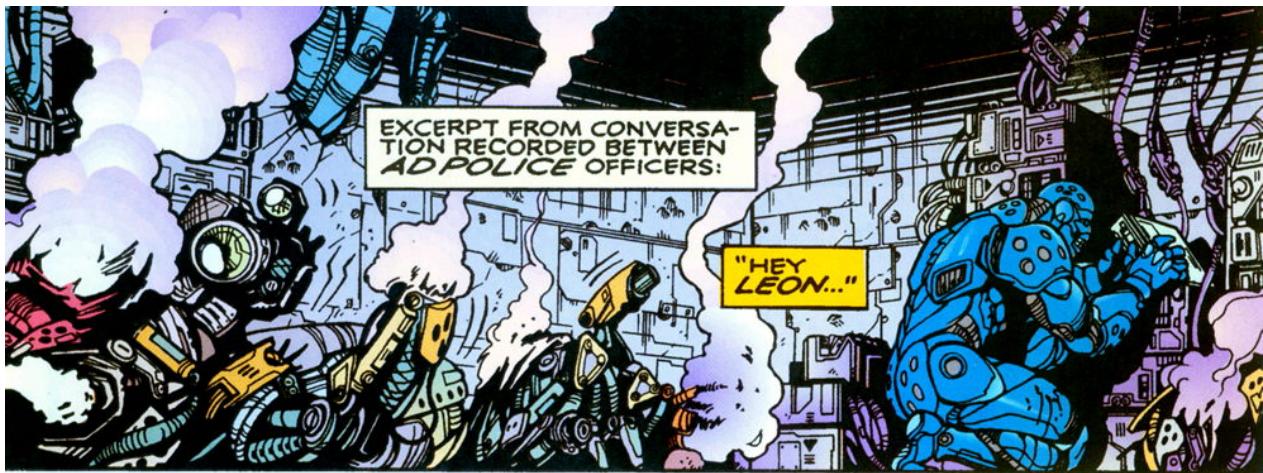
BOOMERS  
AND YOU--

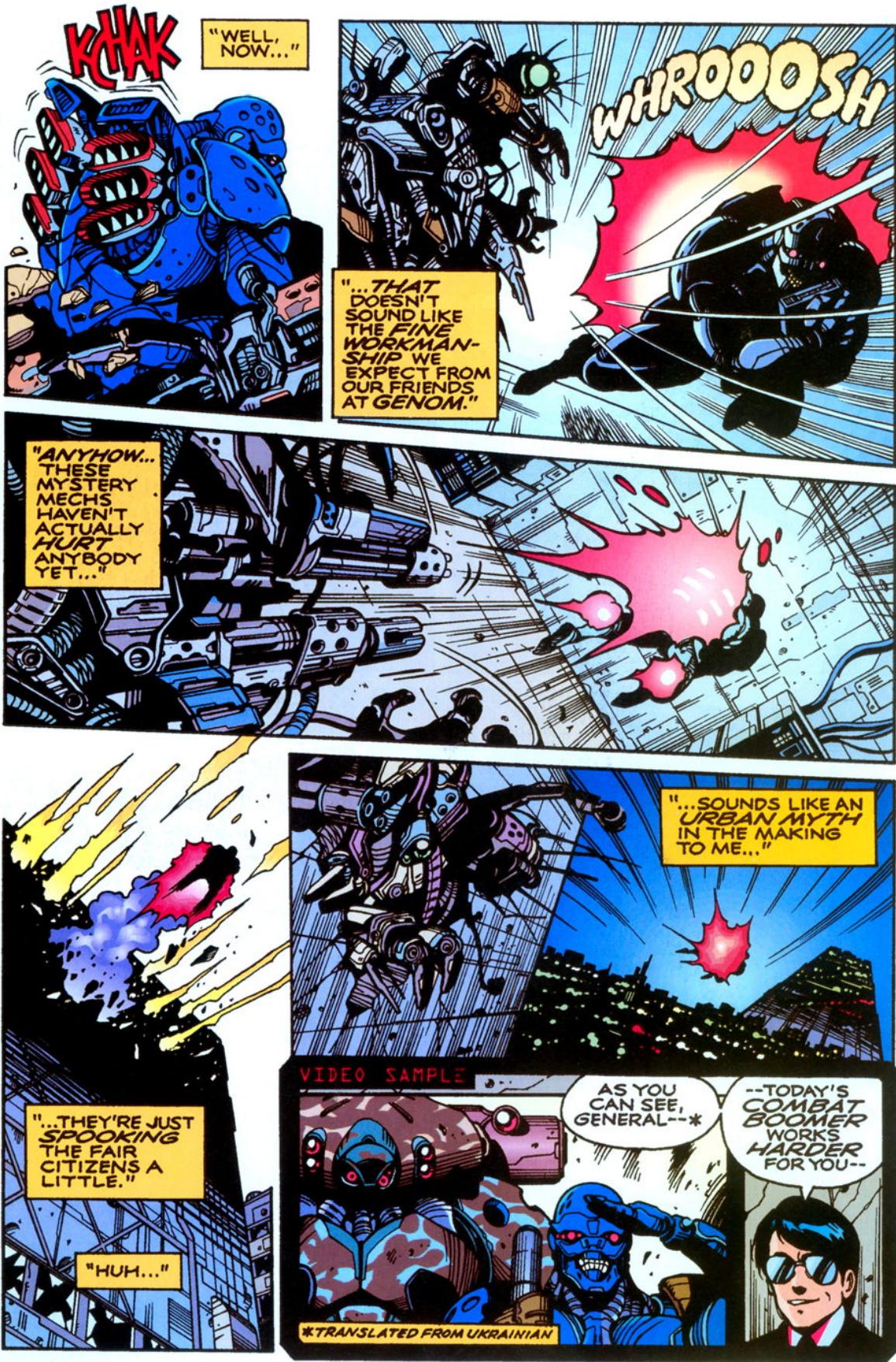
--A WINNING  
COMBINATION  
FOR A *SAFE*  
FUTURE!



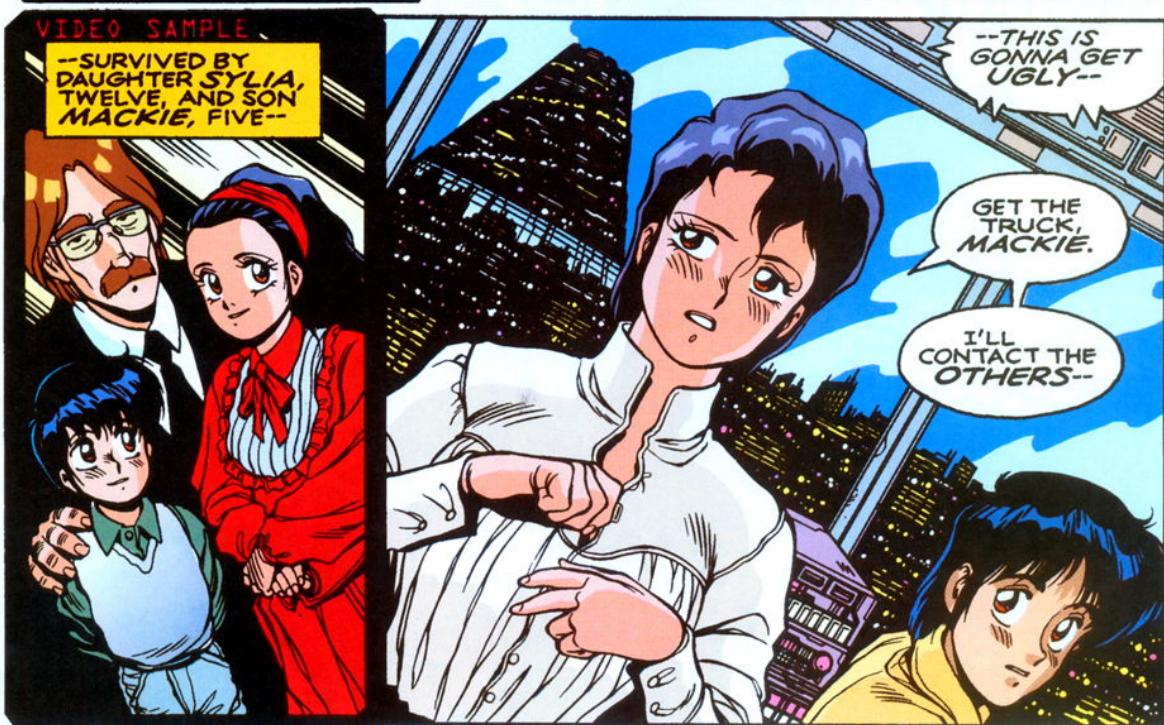
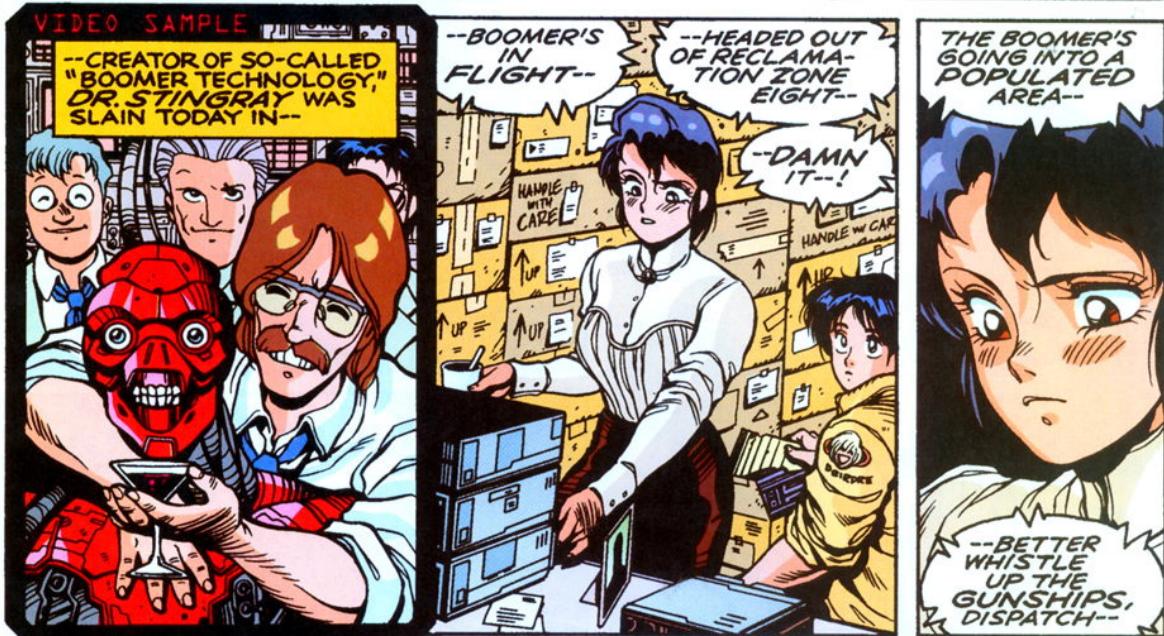


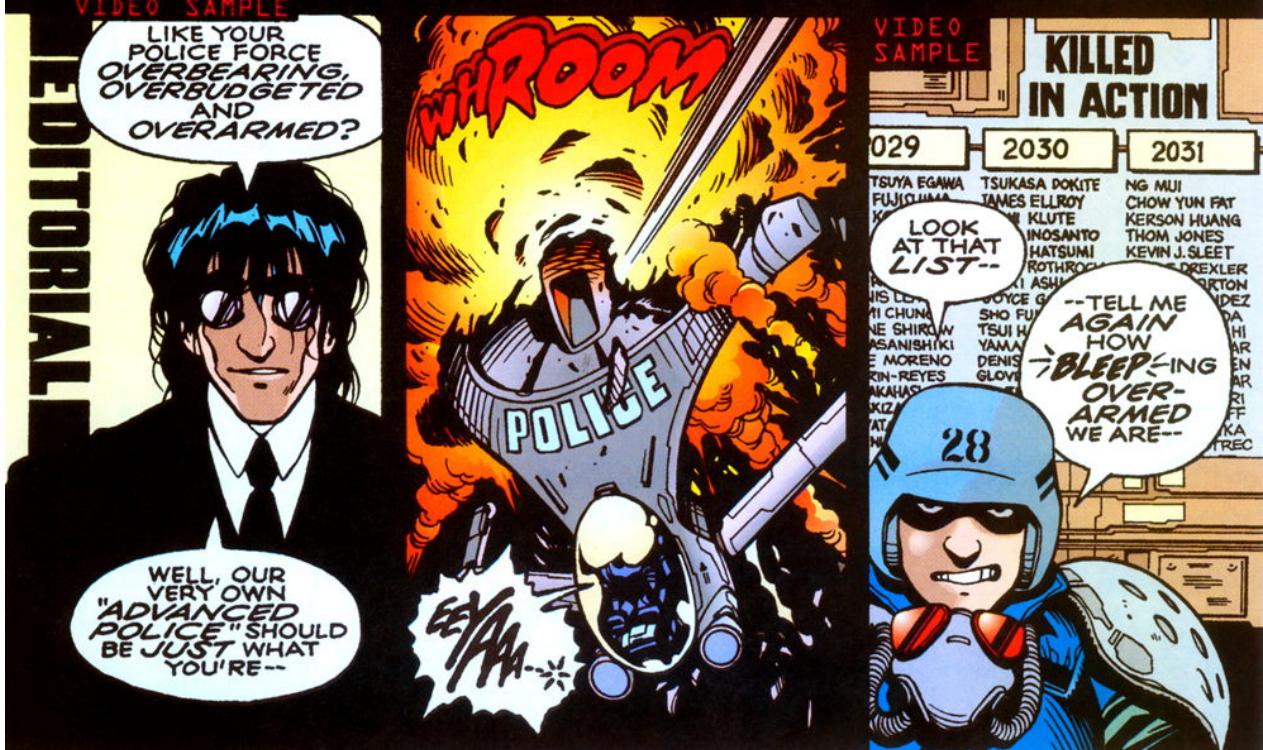


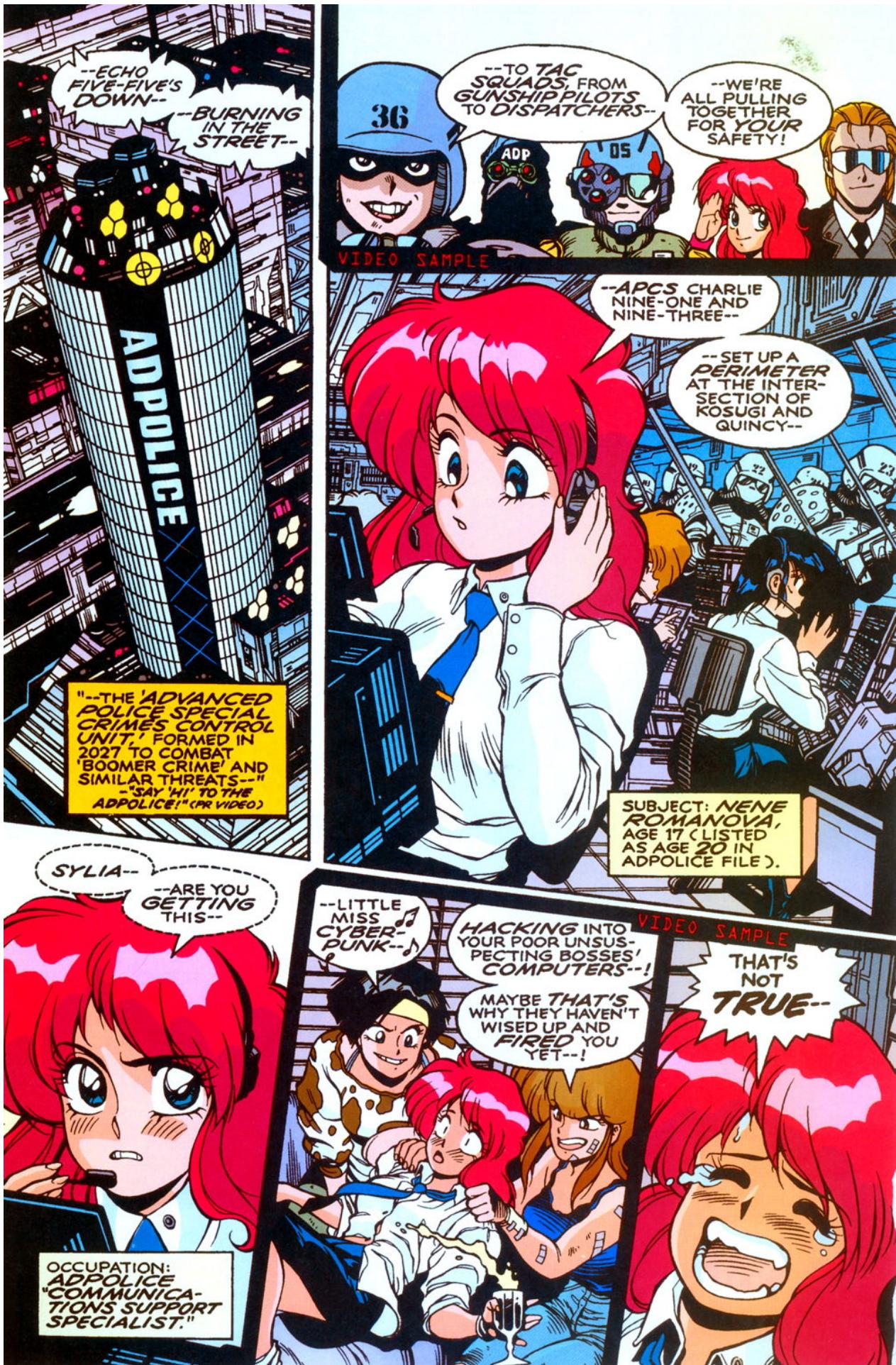


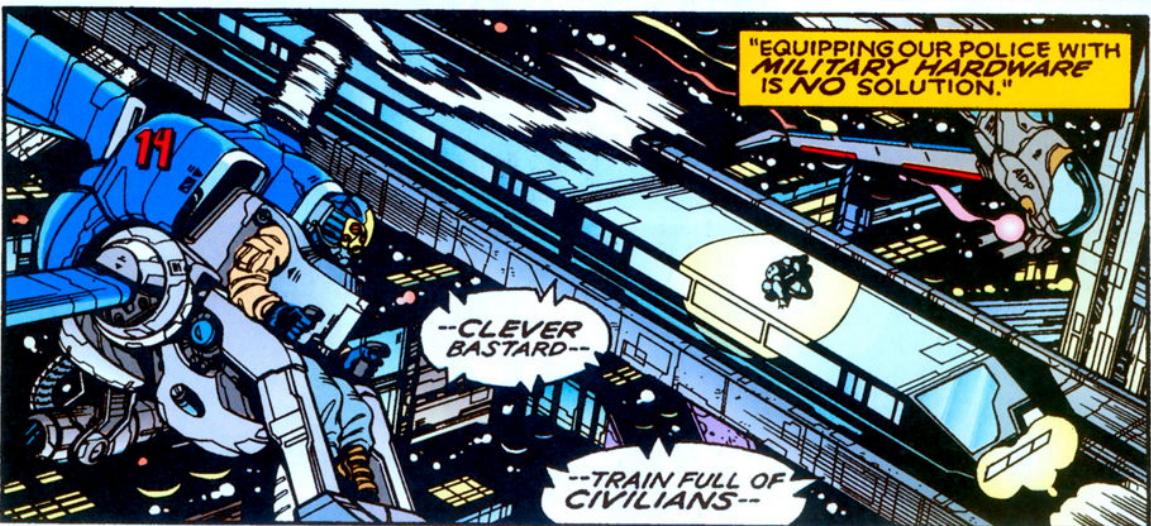
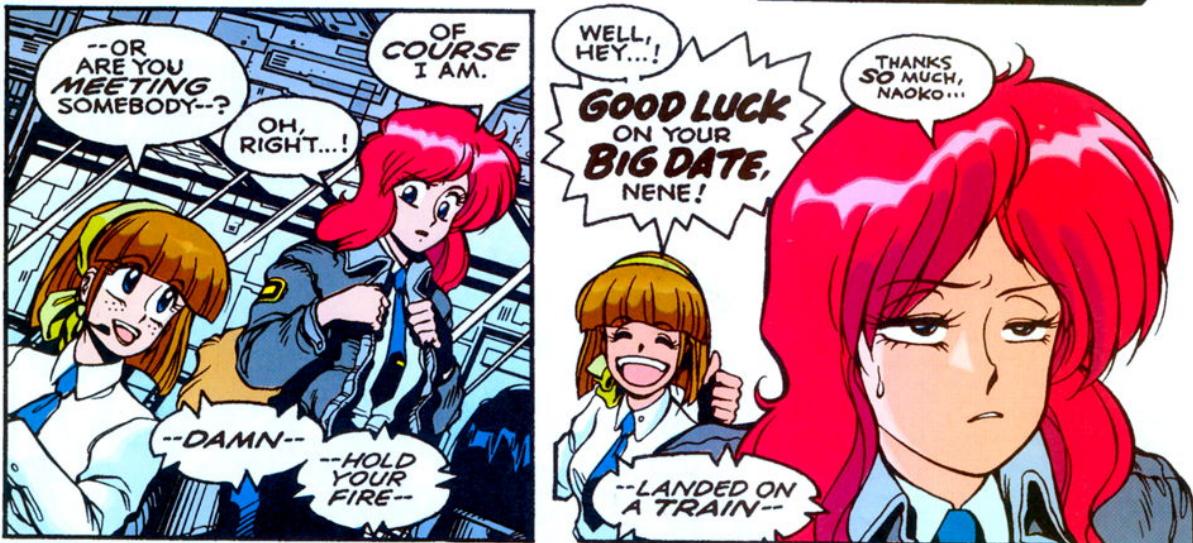
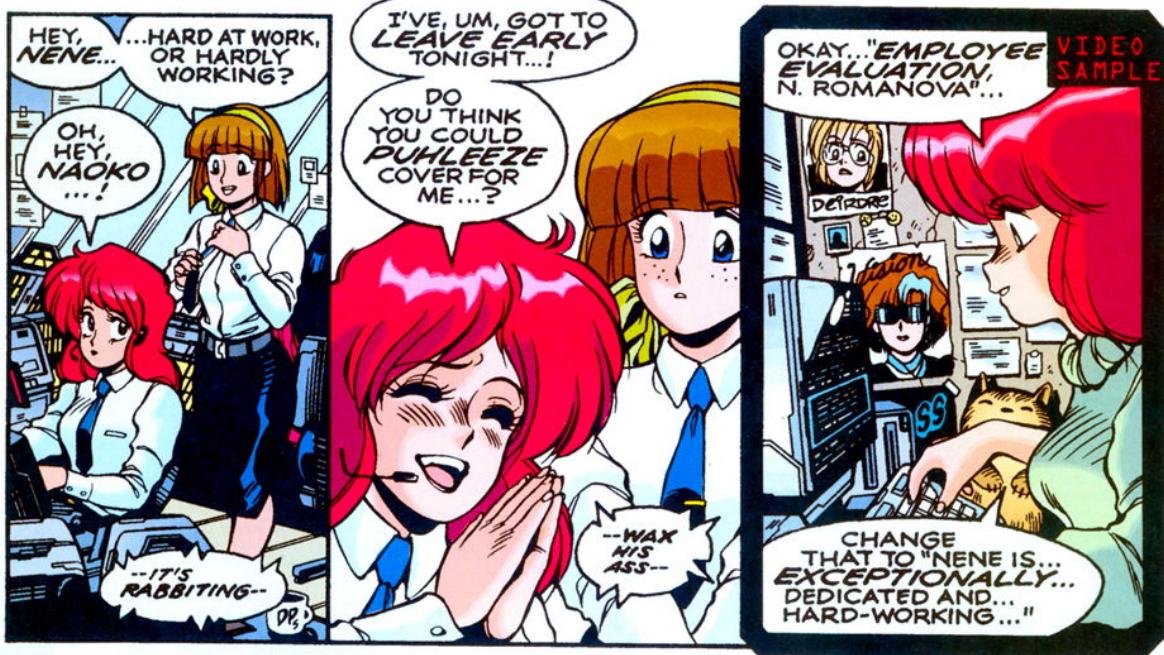


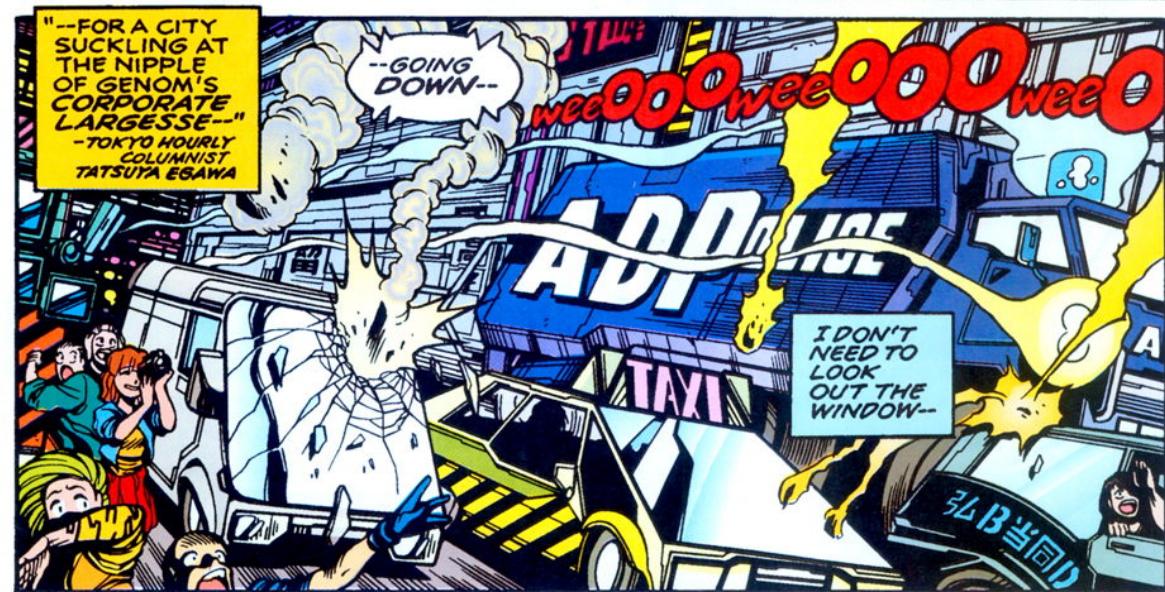
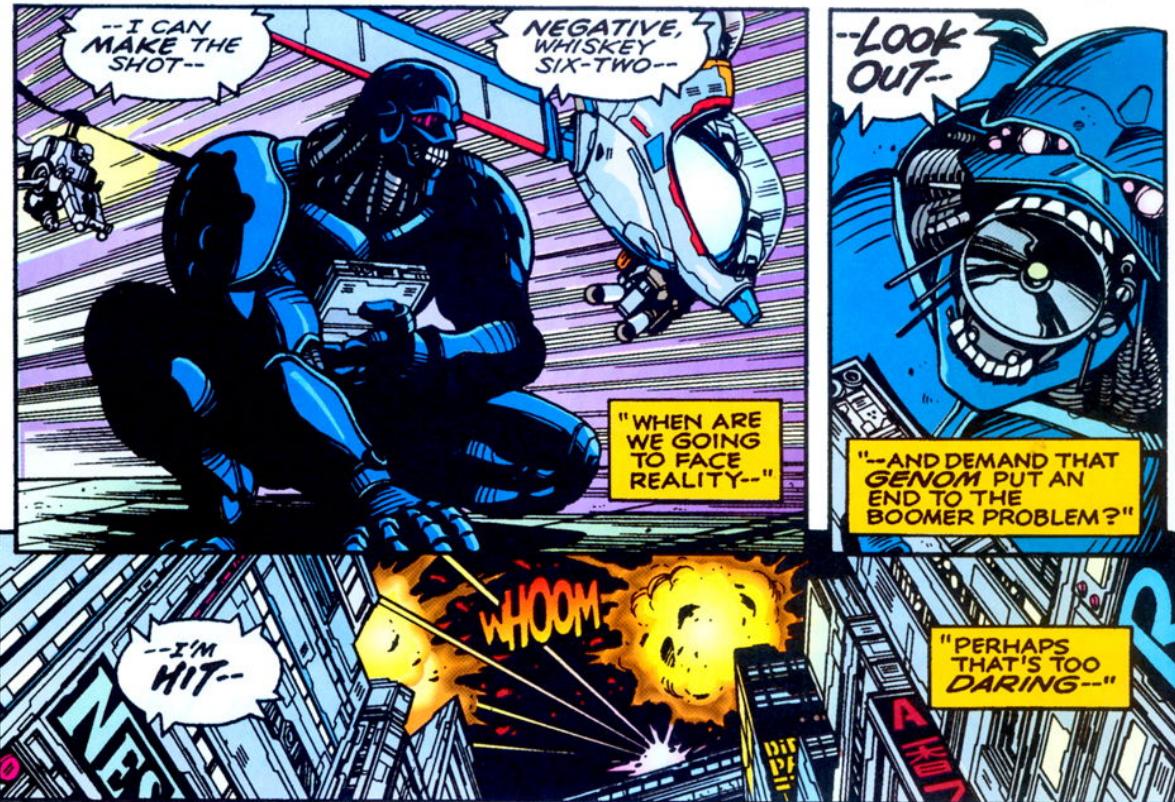


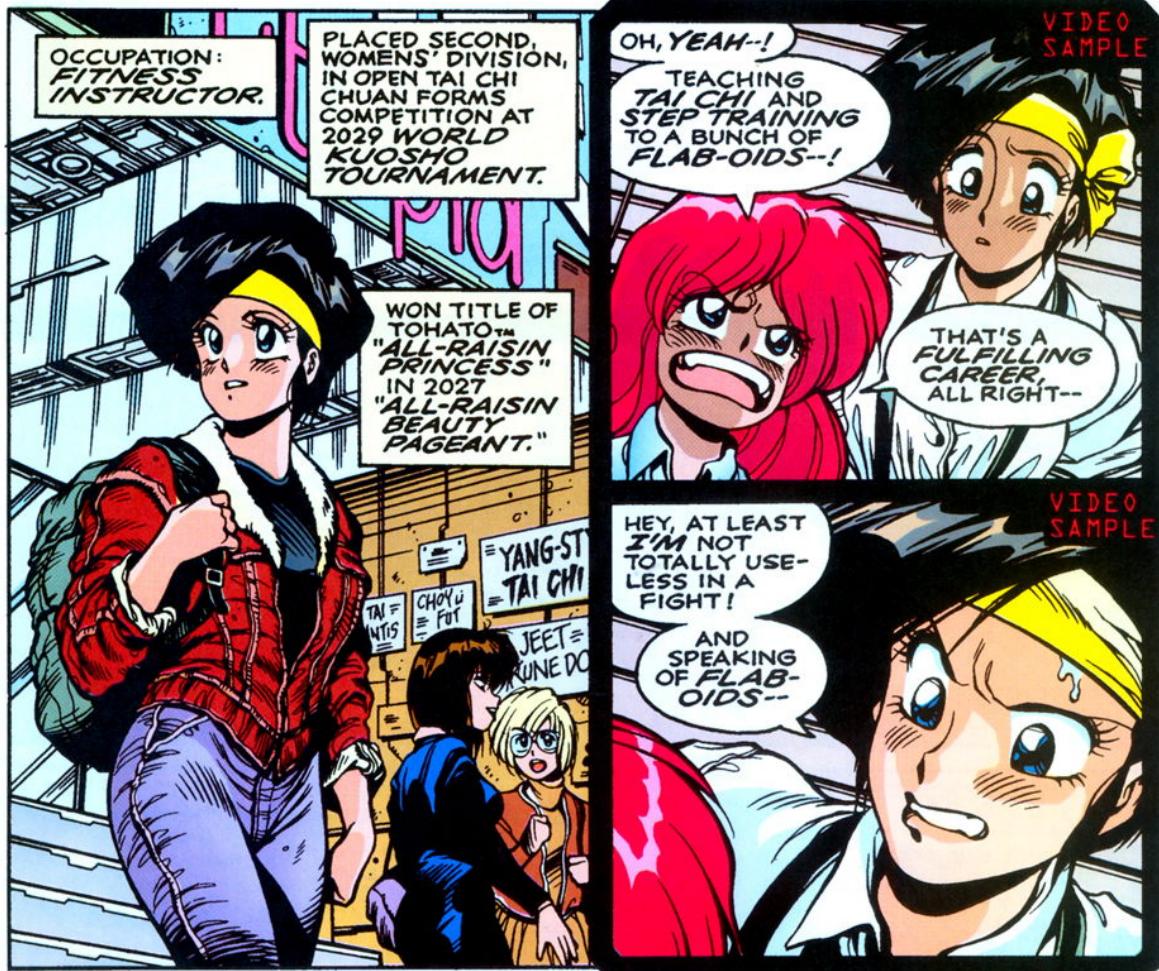


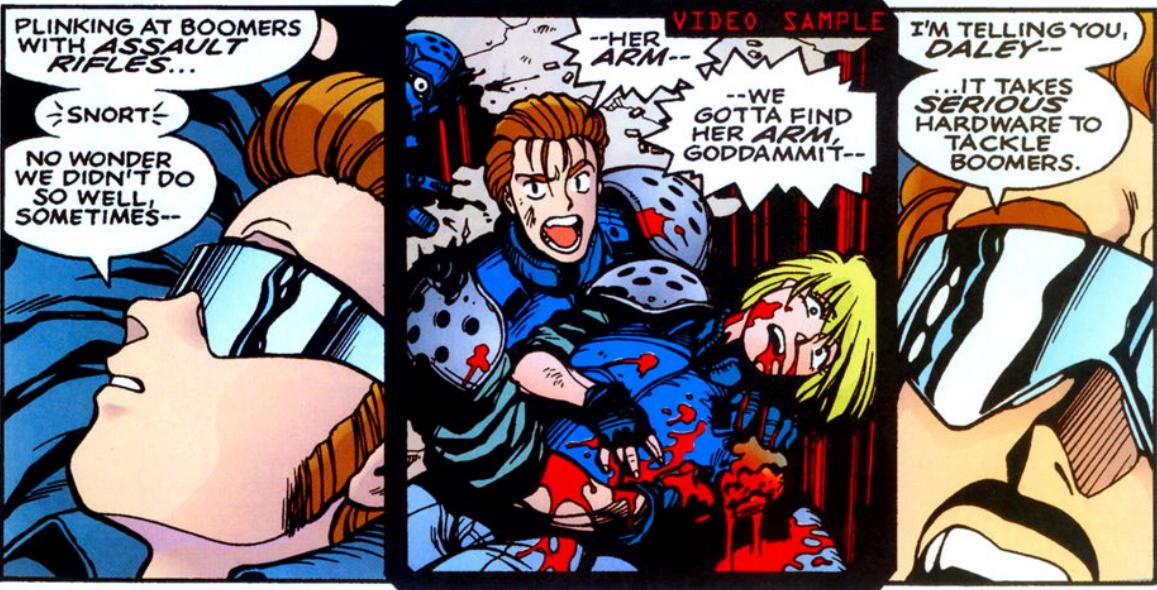
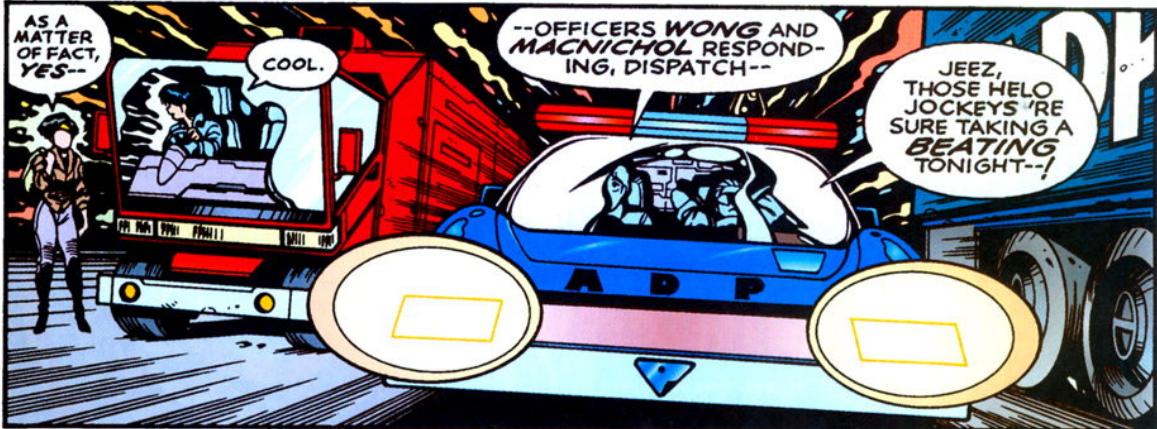


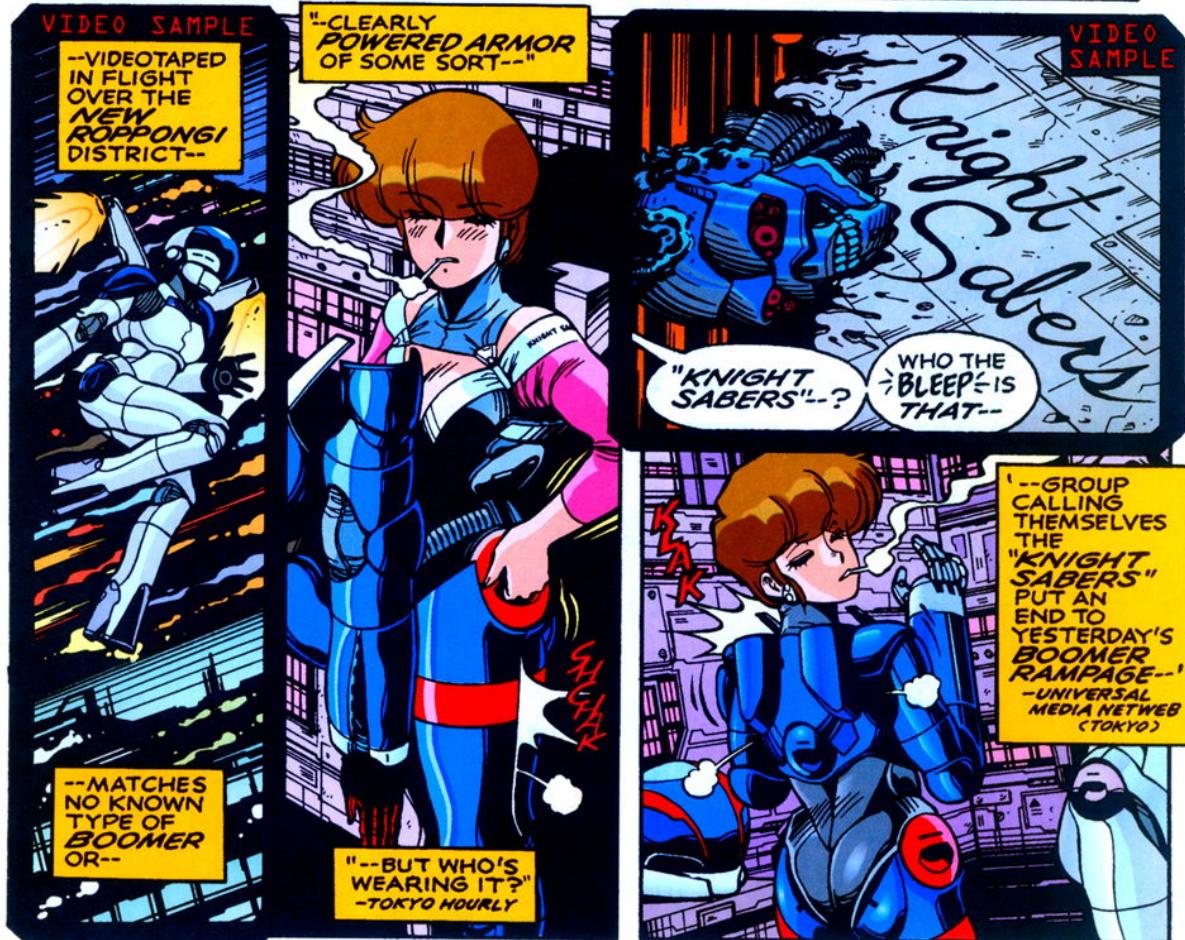
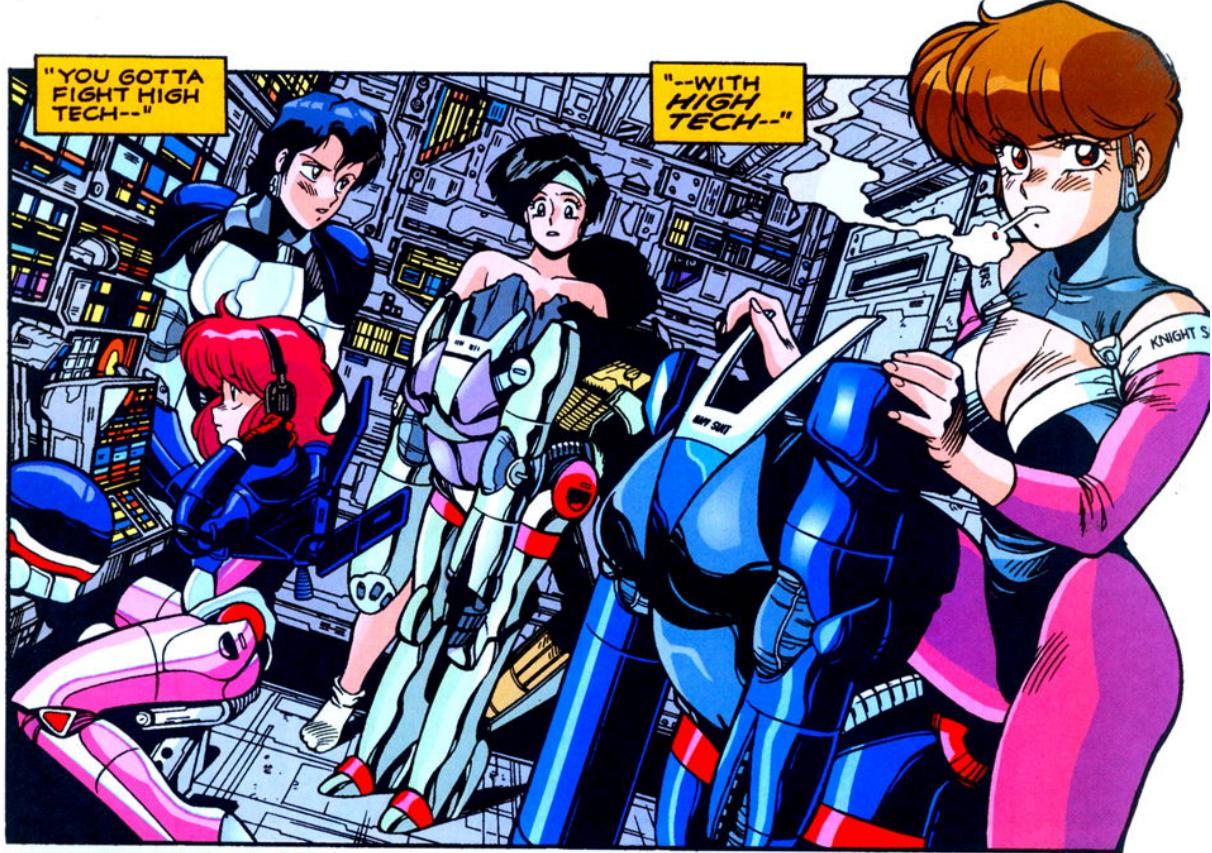












"HIGH-TECH VIGILANTES: A LOOK AT MEGATOKYO'S SHADY 'KNIGHT SABERS'"  
-PACIFICA NEWSNET

"RUMORS OF 'KNIGHT SABERS' INVOLVEMENT IN 'CORPORATE MERCENARY' ACTIVITY... MORE TONIGHT AT ELEVEN."  
-UNIVERSAL MEDIA NETWEB (TOKYO)

--LOST IT? WELL, IT'S GOT TO BE AROUND HERE SOMEWHERE--

--THEY DON'T CARRY ENOUGH FUEL TO GET--

--DEPLOYING HIGH-RES INFRARED ARRAY--

--COME OUT, COME OUT, WHEREVER YOU ARE--

--HOLD ON--

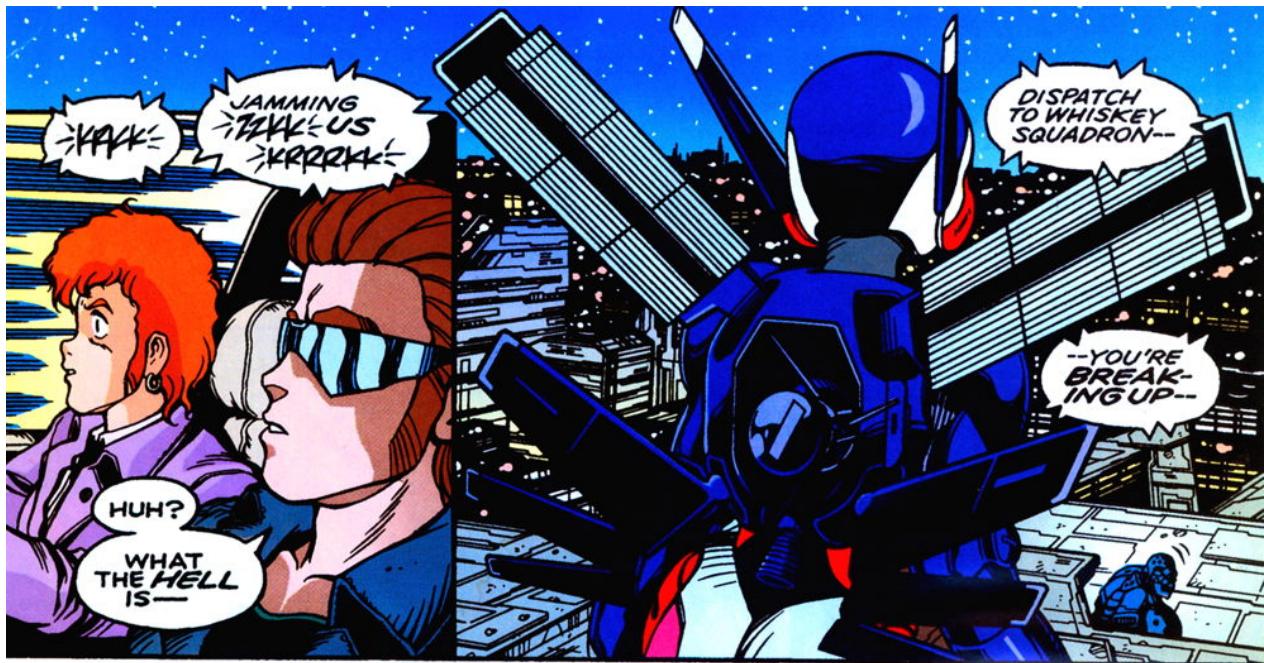
--WE'RE PICKING UP A CODED TRANSMISSION, STRONG--

--GOTTA BE THE BOOMER SIGNALLING FOR HELP, OR--

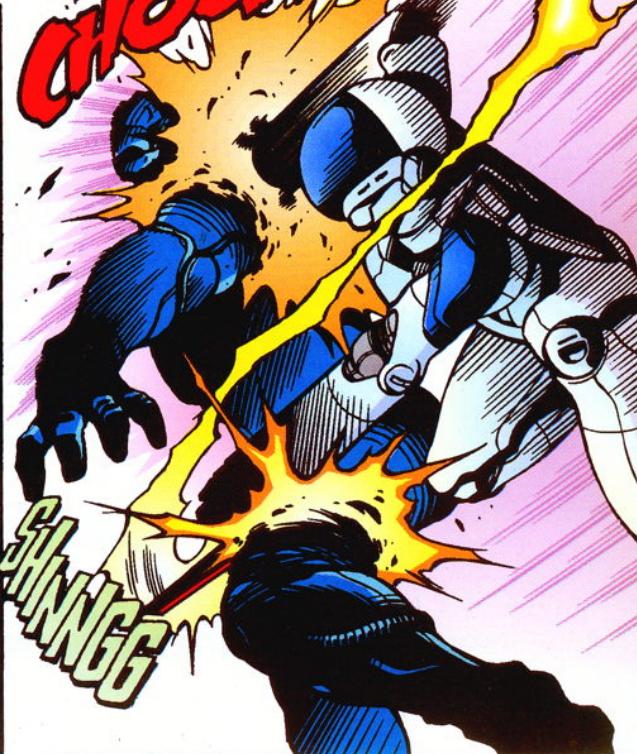
--GIVE ME A FIX ON IT, NOW--

HEY SKYKE!

--SKYKE! SOMEBODY'S JAMMING HIM--





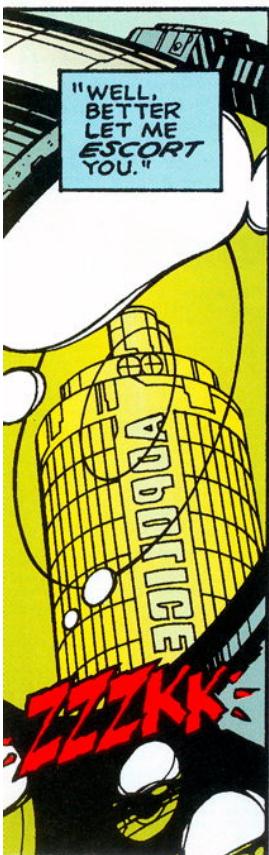
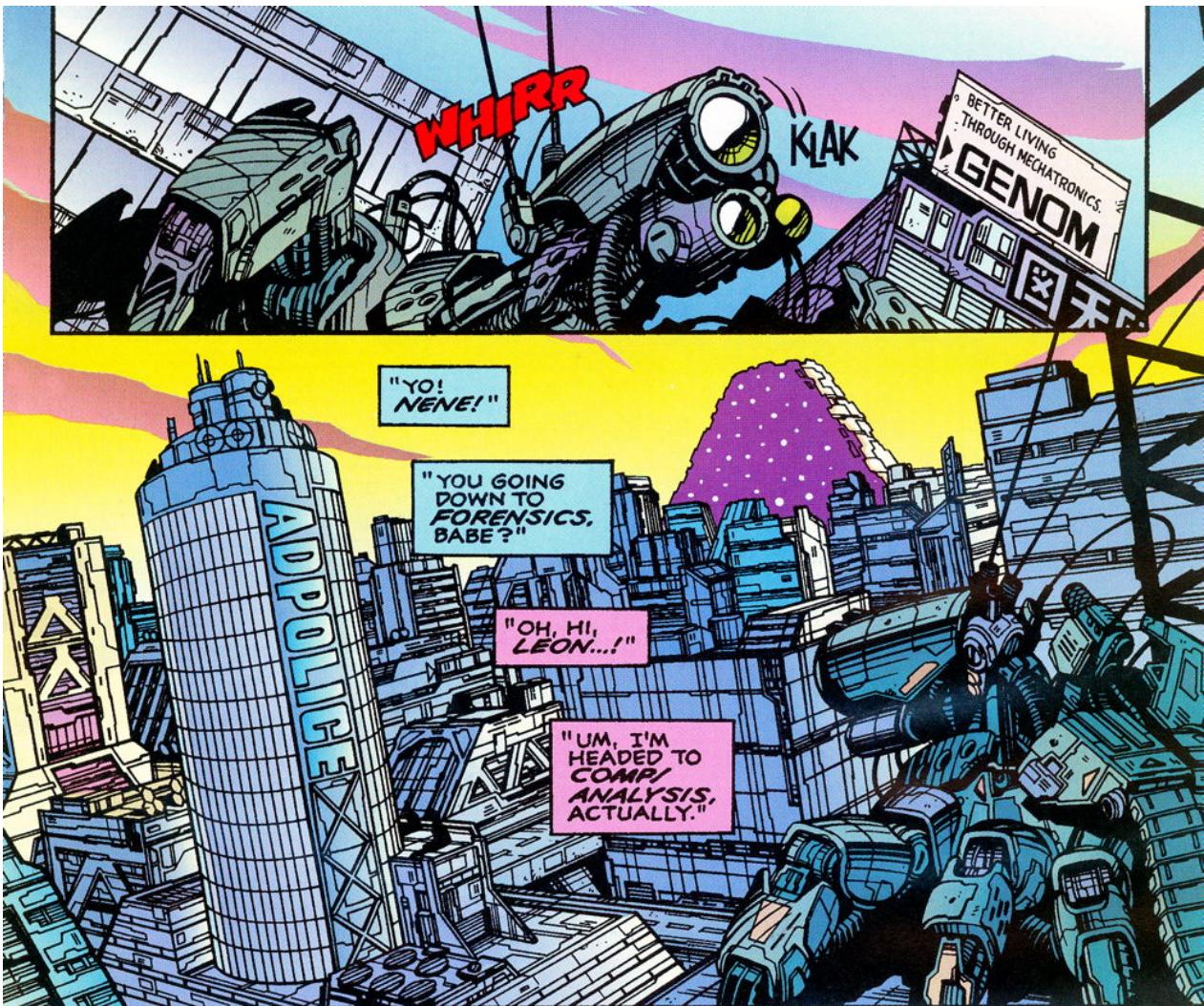


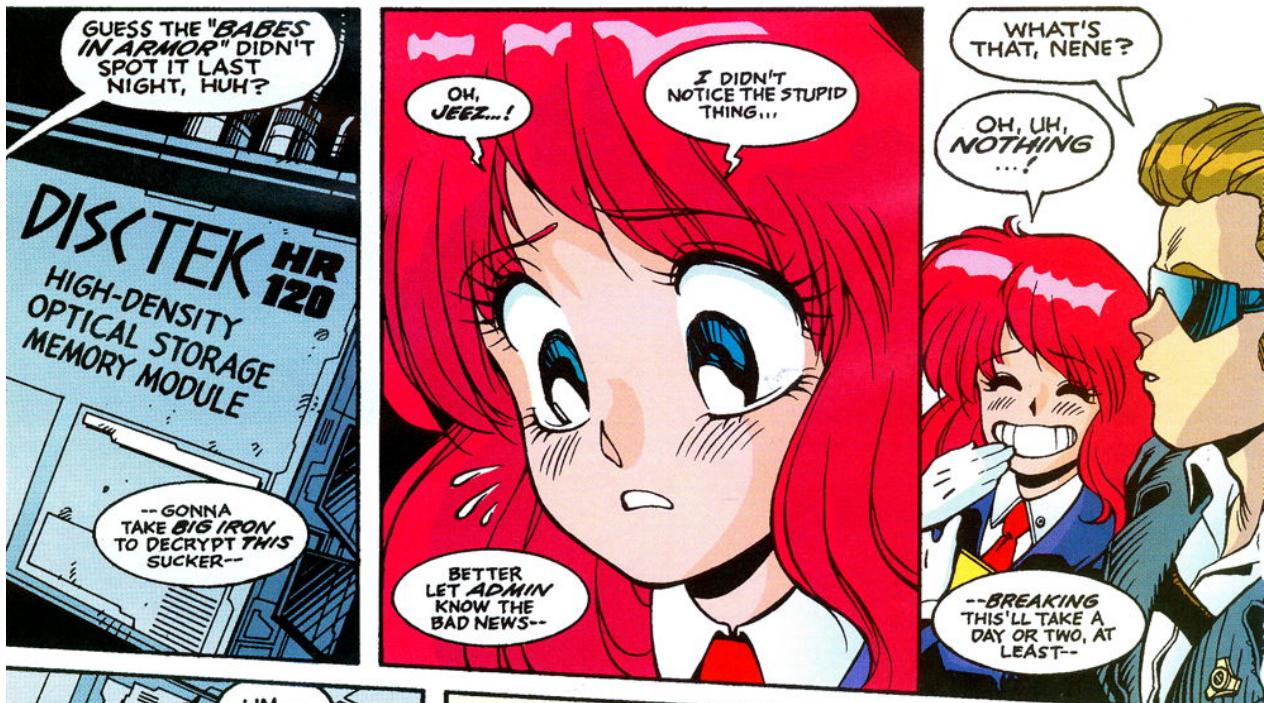


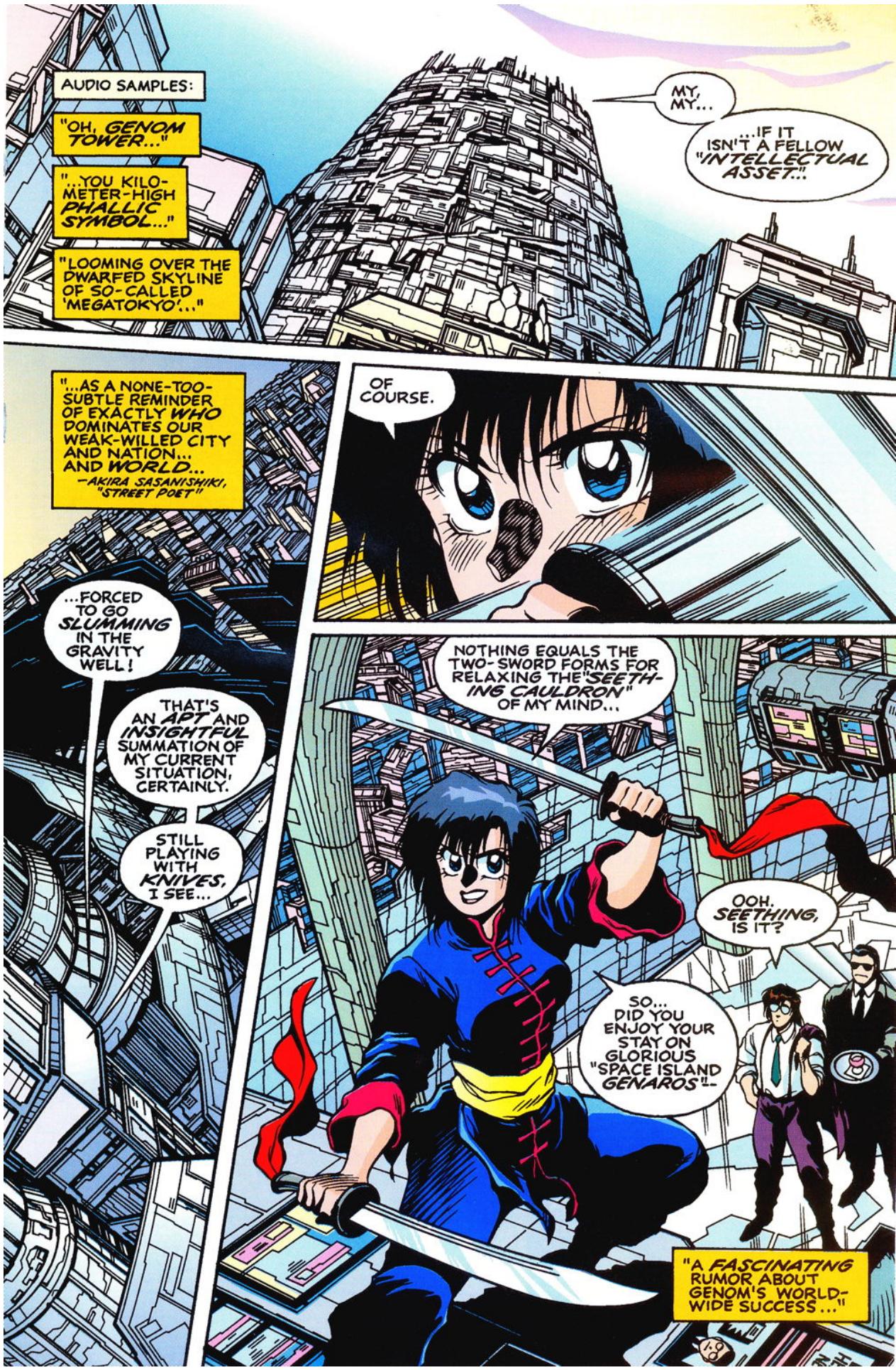


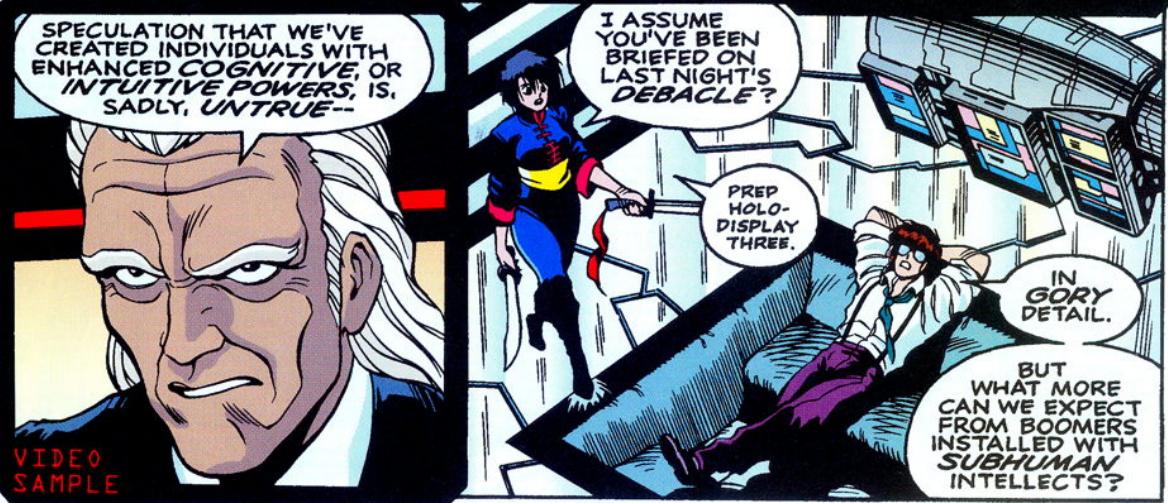
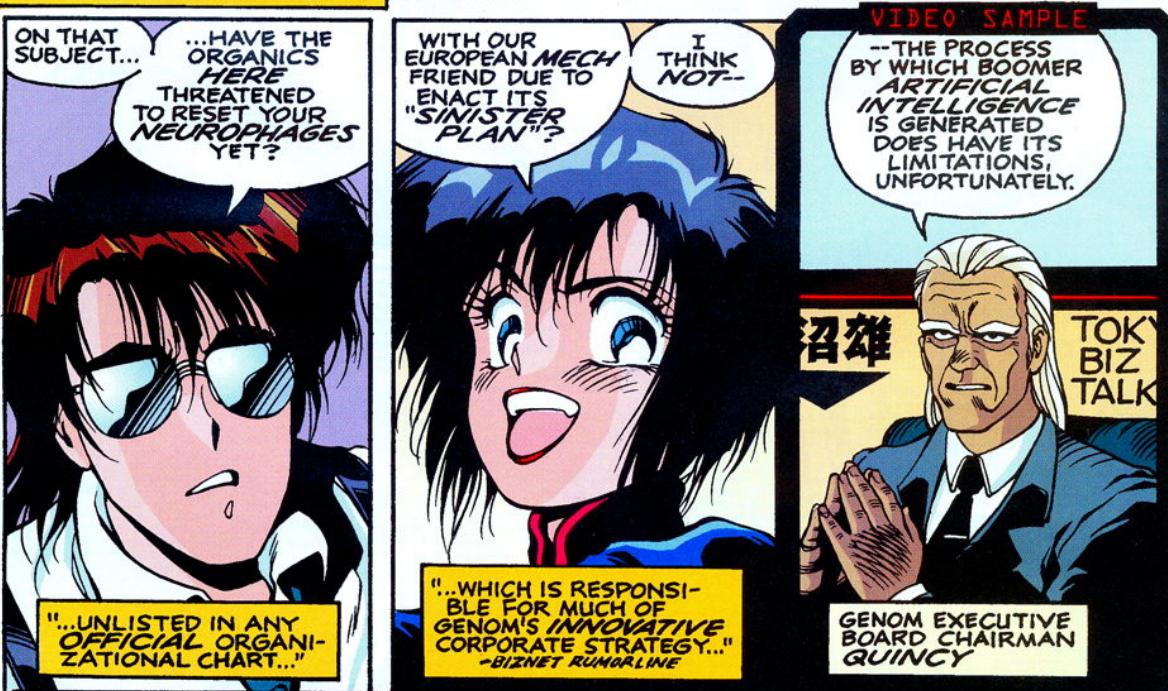
## CHAPTER TWO

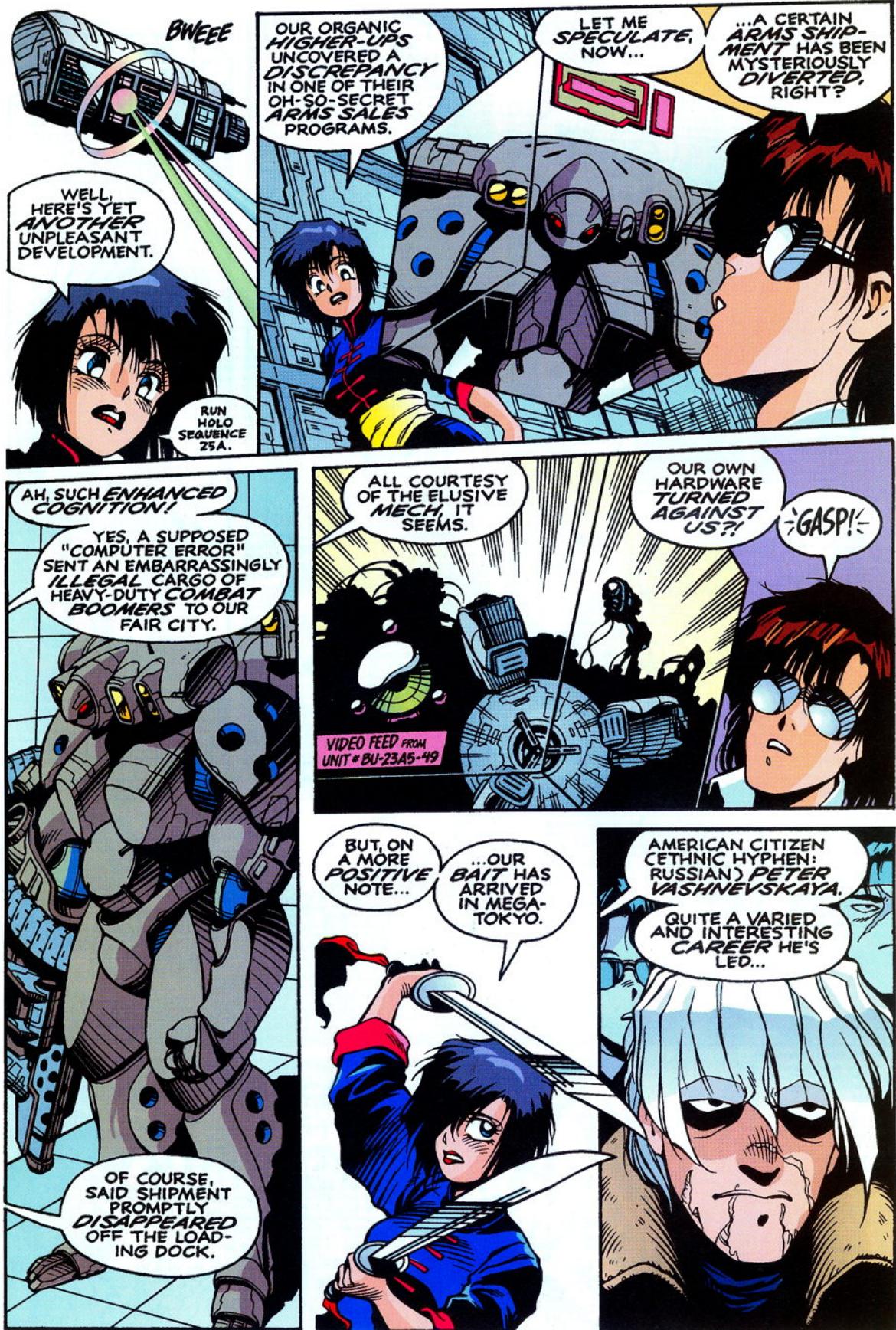


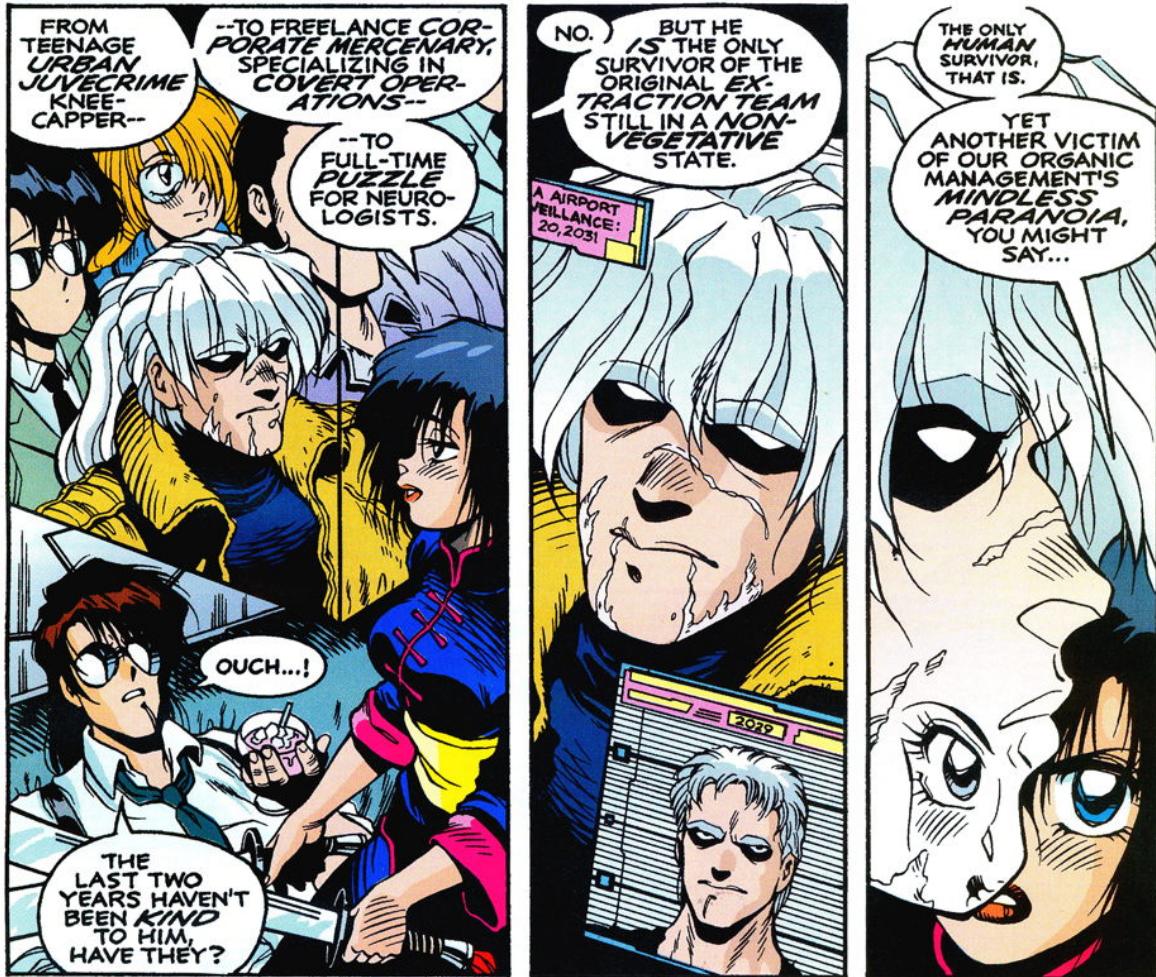














I'M NOT  
YOUR  
WHORE

I'M YOUR  
ANGEL OF DEATH

ANGRY.

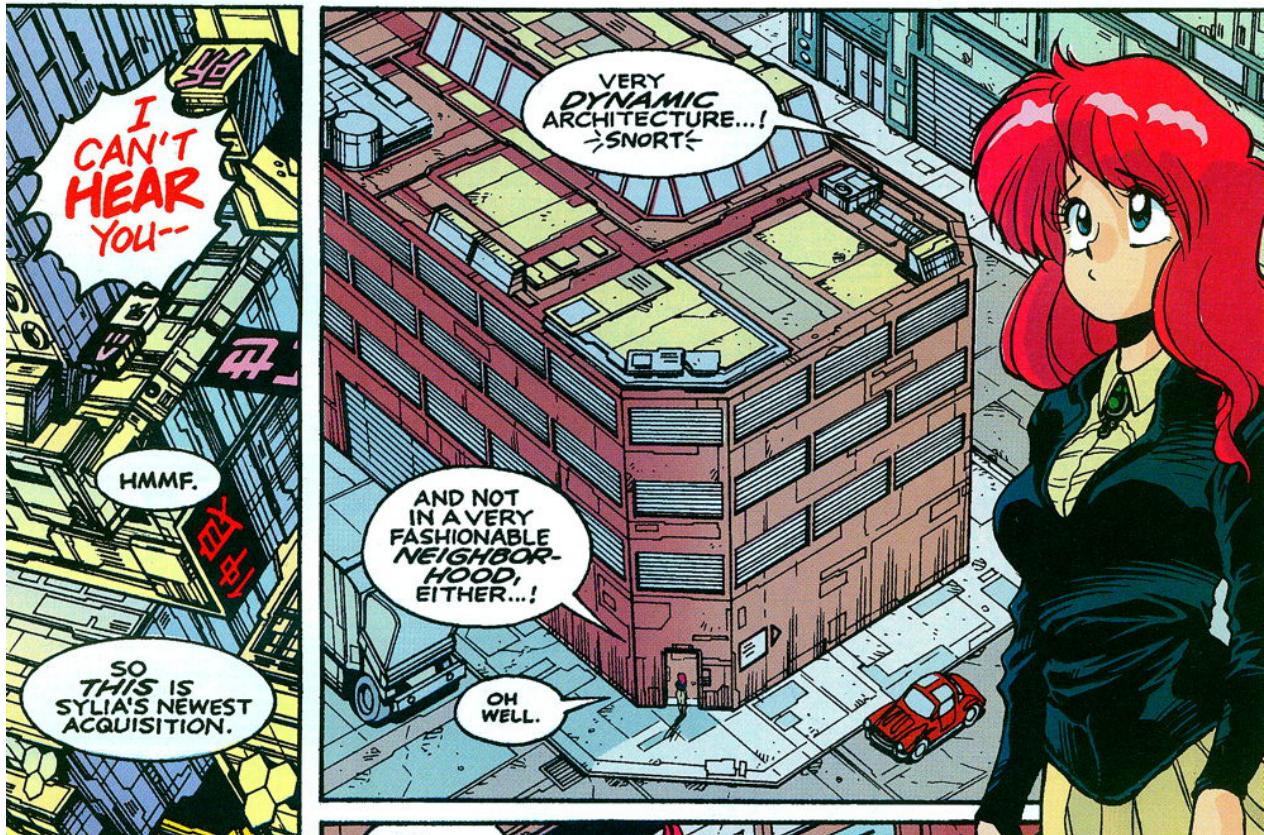
FRENZIED.

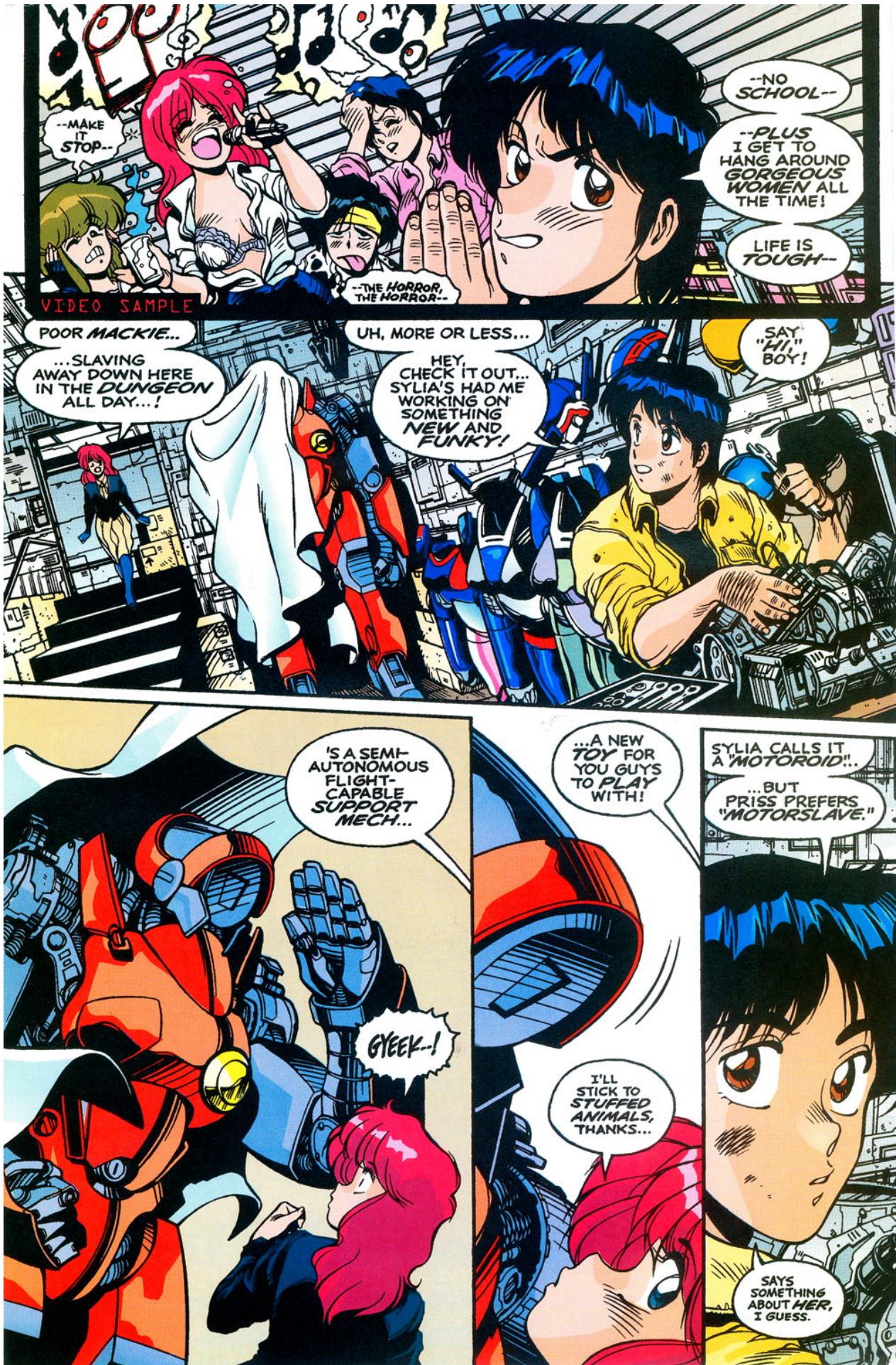
INCOHERENT.

I'M YOUR NOOSE  
--YOUR RAZOR  
BLADE--  
--YOUR LETHAL  
INJECTION--

"RETROTHRASH"  
IS MY KIND OF  
LAME MUSIC.









VIDEO SAMPLE

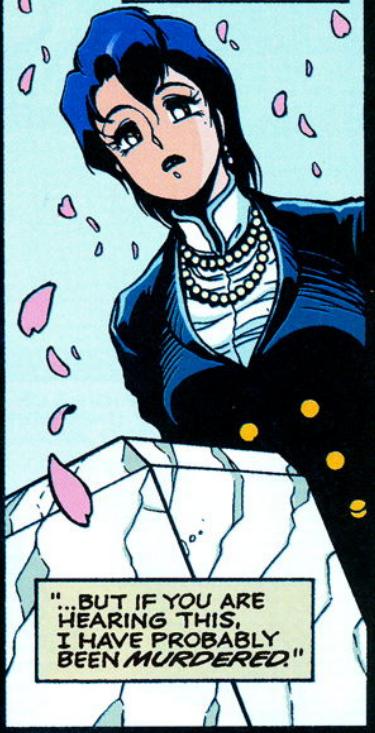
--PERHAPS THE MOST SIGNIFICANT ASPECT OF DR. STINGRAY'S RESEARCH--

--WAS HIS DEVELOPMENT OF THE BOOMERS' FORM OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE--



"SYLIA."

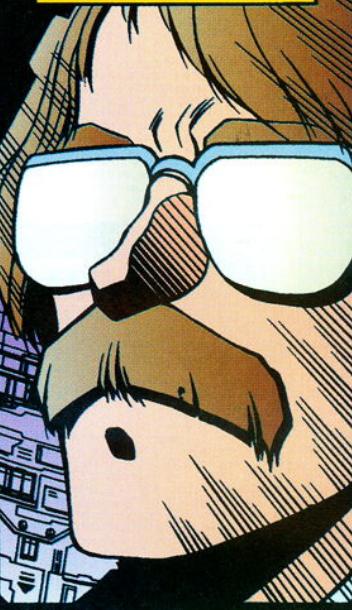
"PLEASE PARDON THE MELODRAMATIC..."



VIDEO SAMPLE

--WITH A RESULT CLOSELY ANALOGOUS TO HUMAN CONSCIOUSNESS.

EXACTLY HOW THIS WAS ACHIEVED REMAINS GENOM'S TRADE SECRET.



"I MUST LEAVE SOME COUNTER TO GENOM'S CERTAIN ABUSE OF MY WORK."

"YOU WILL BE THAT COUNTER, SYLIA."



--OF COURSE, WE ARE FOREVER INDEBTED TO THE BRILLIANT WORK OF THE LATE DR. STINGRAY.

WITHOUT HIS IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTIONS, GENOM CORPORATION MIGHT NEVER HAVE--

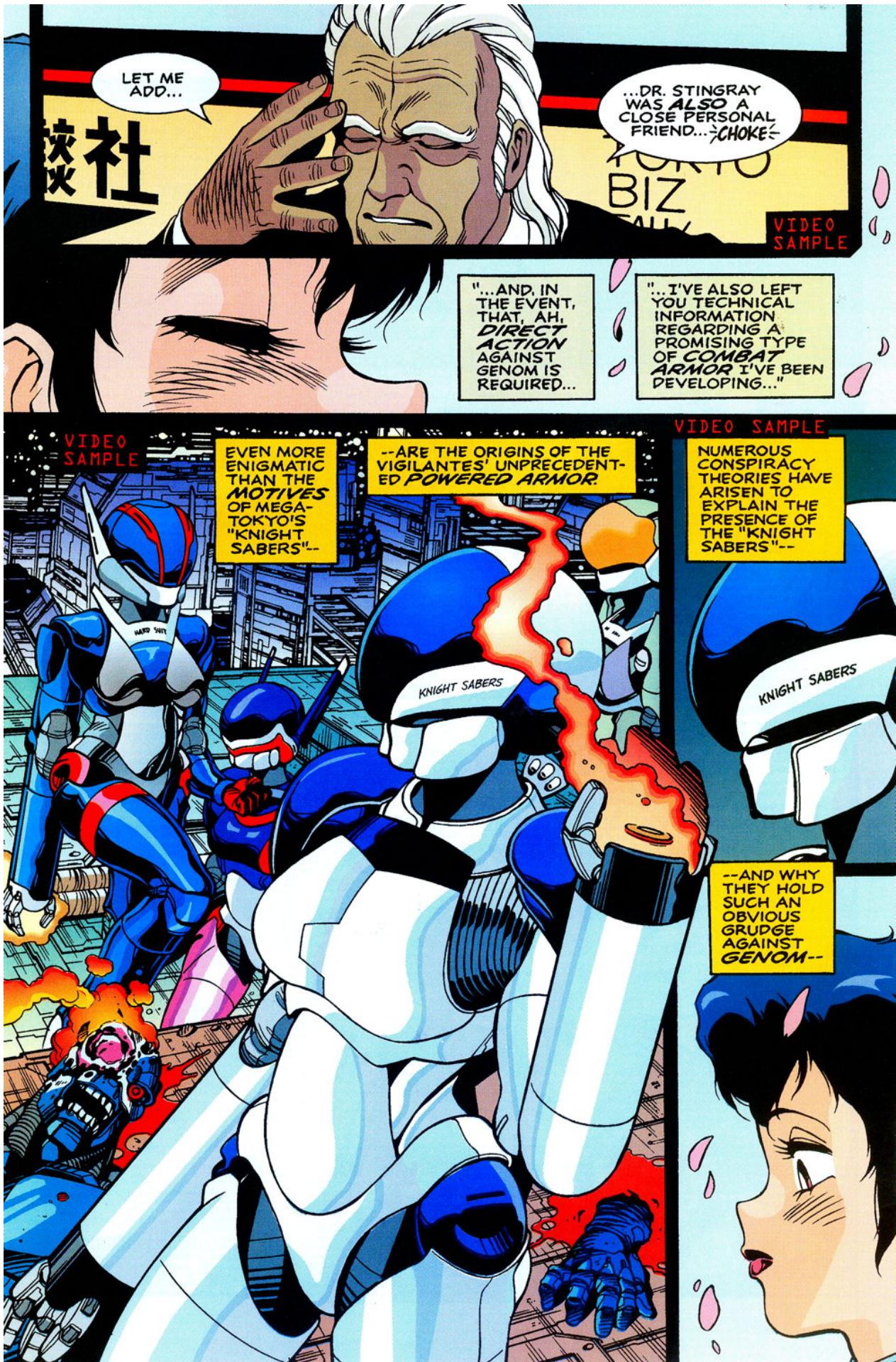


"TO AID YOU IN THIS..."

"...I HAVE GIVEN YOU AND YOUR BROTHER CERTAIN...GIFTS, YOU MIGHT SAY."



VIDEO SAMPLE



--THE "KNIGHT SABERS"  
ARE NOTHING MORE  
THAN TERRORISTS,  
CRIMINALS WHO  
DESERVE TO BE--

差

VIDEO  
SAMPLE

"OH,  
FATHER..."

"...YOUR UNLIMITED  
INTELLECT  
CREATED A  
TECHNOLOGICAL  
MIRACLE..."

TERMINATE  
SIMULATION.

"NOW, I'M  
FORCED TO  
KILL YOUR  
FIGURATIVE  
CHILDREN,  
THE  
BOOMERS.  
WHEN THEY  
RUN WILD..."

"...WHILE THE MEN WHO  
PROFIT FROM THEIR  
ABUSE REMAIN  
FOREVER OUT OF  
MY REACH."

"FATHER, IF I  
COULD BEAR  
CHILDREN..."

"...I'D WANT TO  
LEAVE THEM A  
LESS HOPELESS  
AND AGONIZING  
LEGACY THAN THE  
ONE YOU LEFT ME."  
-EXCERPTS FROM  
SYLIA STINGRAY'S  
PRIVATE RECORDS.

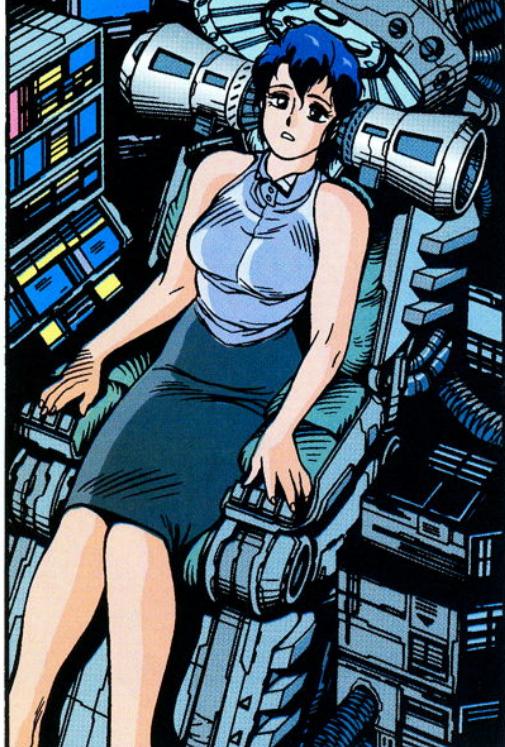
"...BUT YOUR FLAWED  
JUDGMENT  
PLACED IT IN THE  
HANDS OF AMORAL  
THUGS."

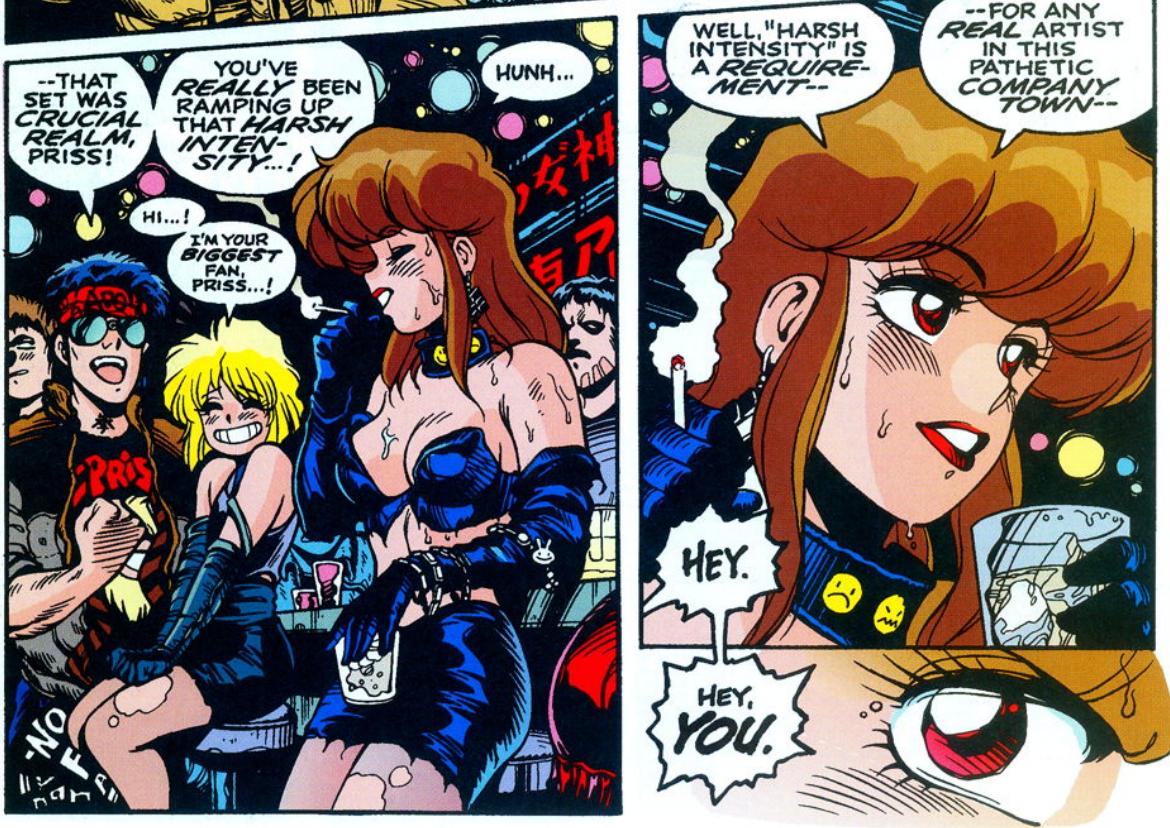
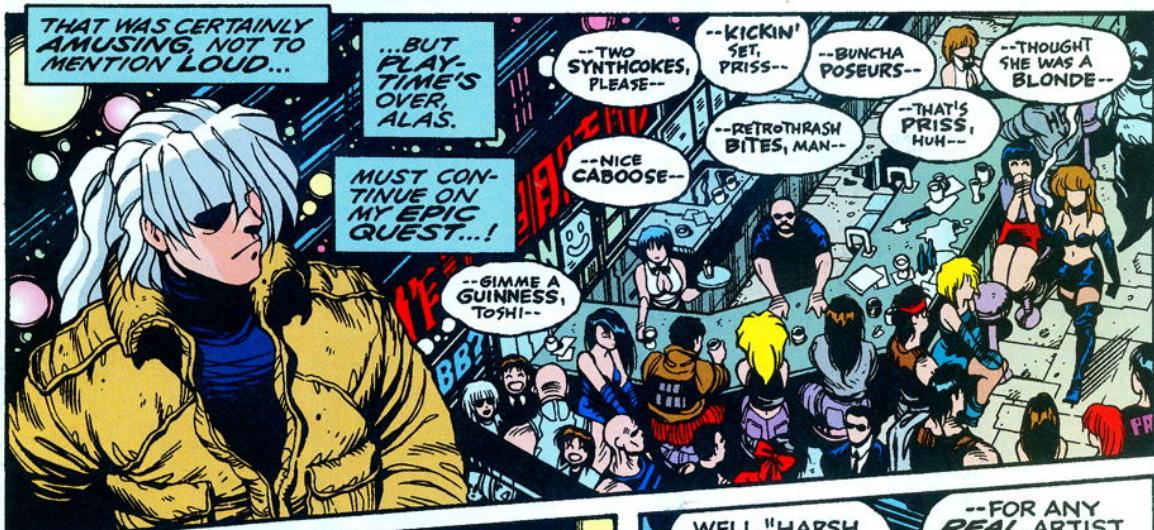
"SO YOU ALTERED  
ME, SO THAT I MIGHT  
SOMEHOW REDEEM THE  
TANGLED MESS  
YOU LEFT BEHIND."

WELL, SYLIA  
DOES  
SEEM TO  
HAVE MIXED  
FEELINGS  
ABOUT  
DAD.

NOT  
THAT  
I KNOW  
WHY...

HMM...  
I  
WONDER WHAT—

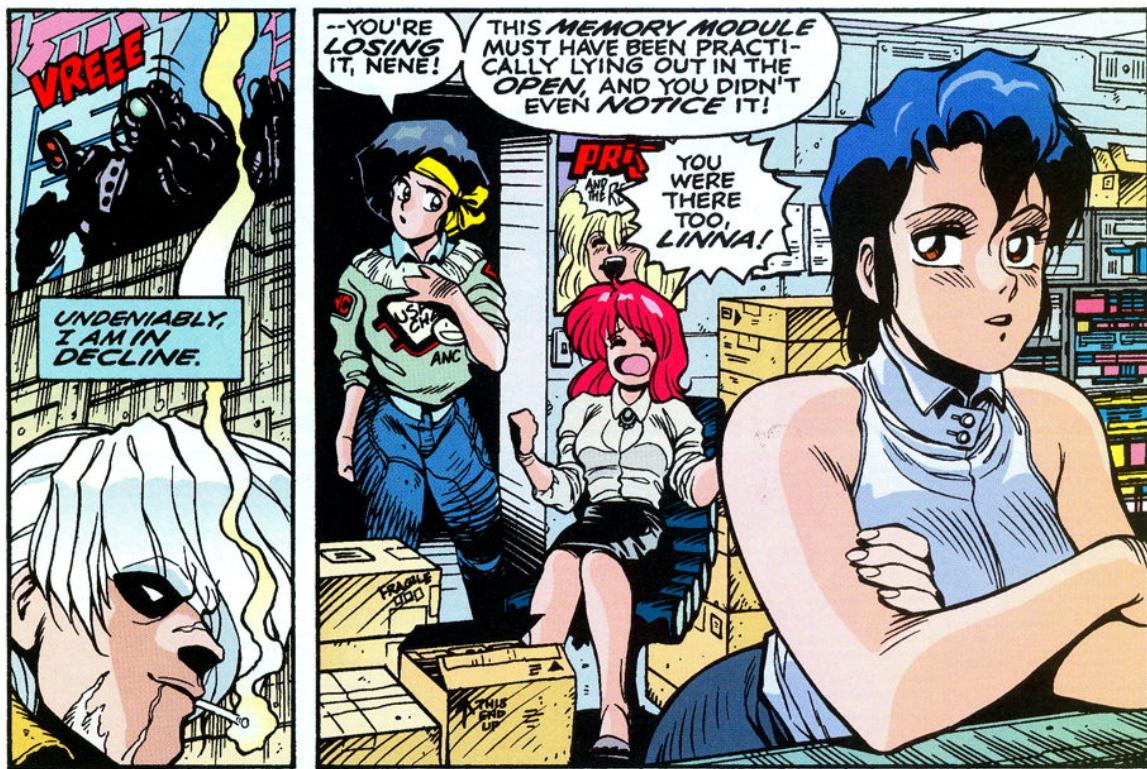


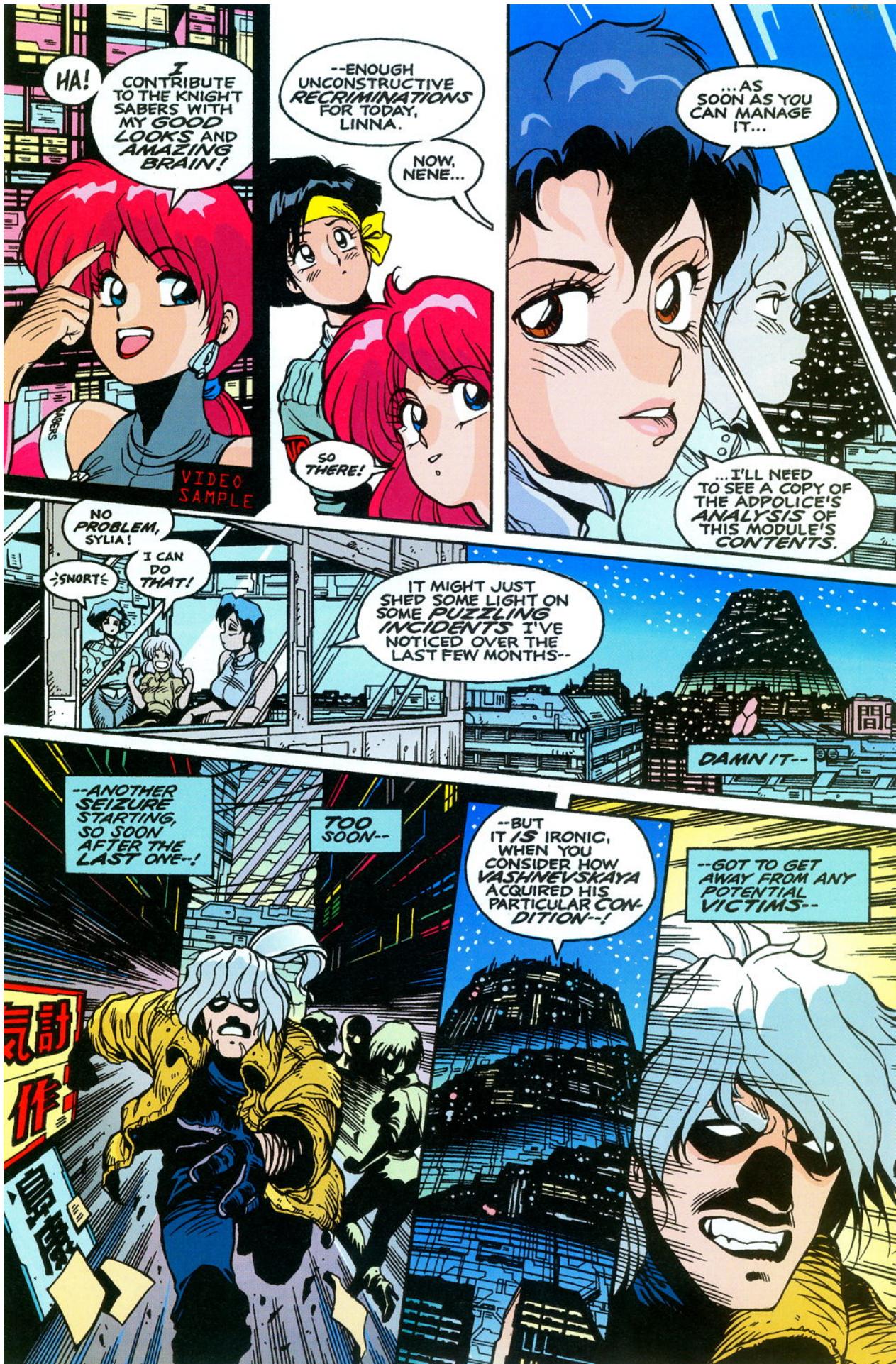


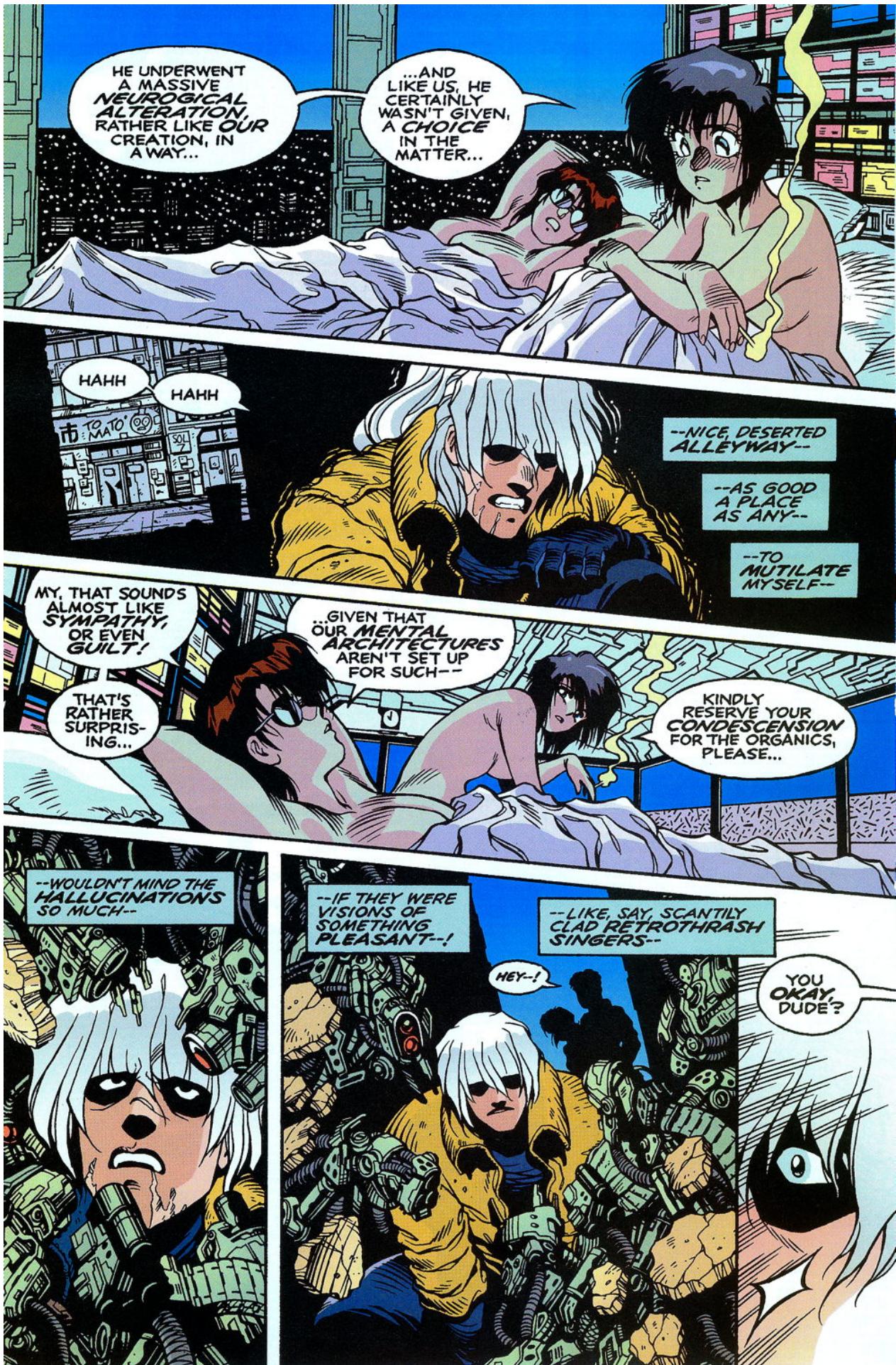


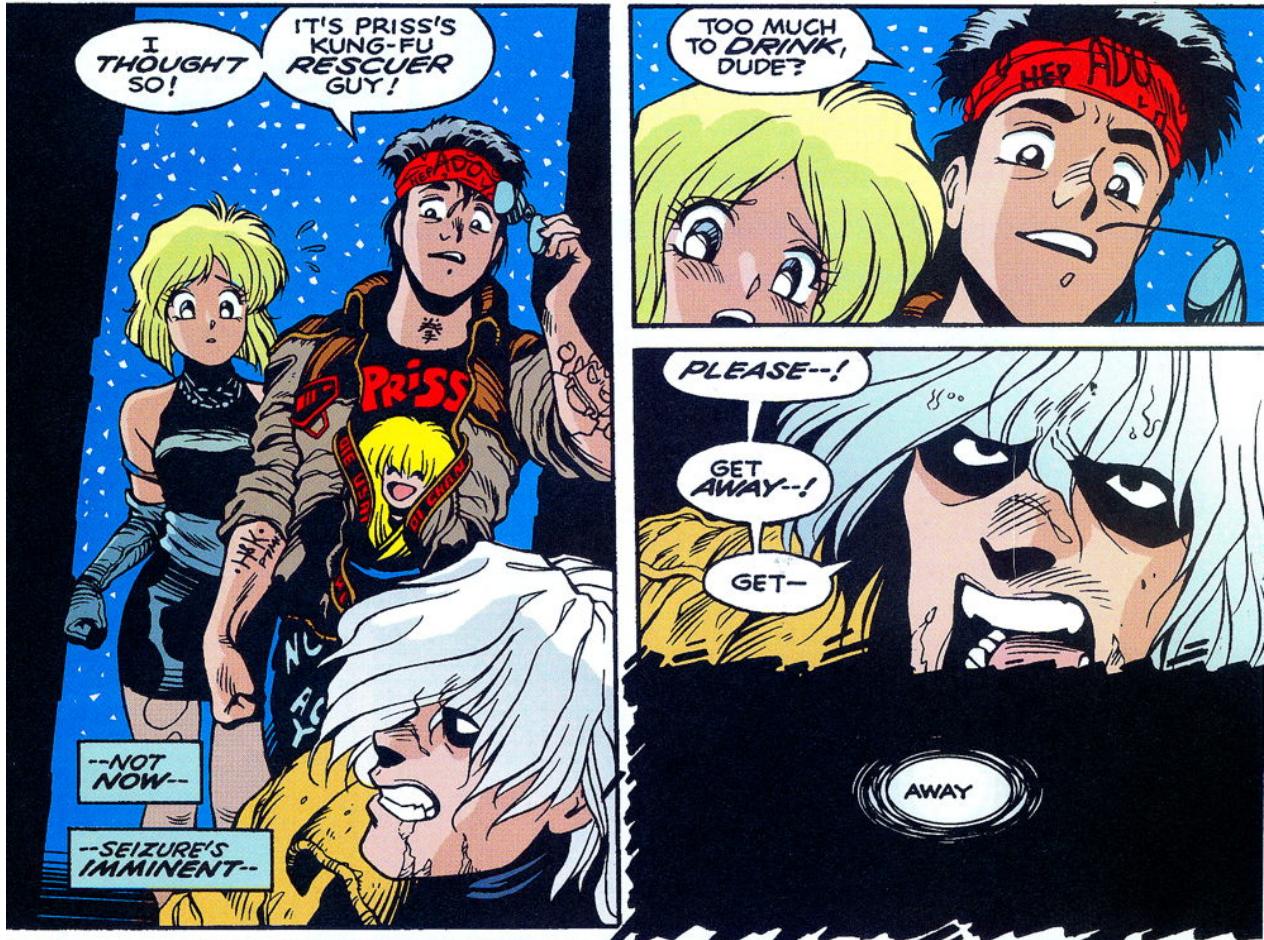


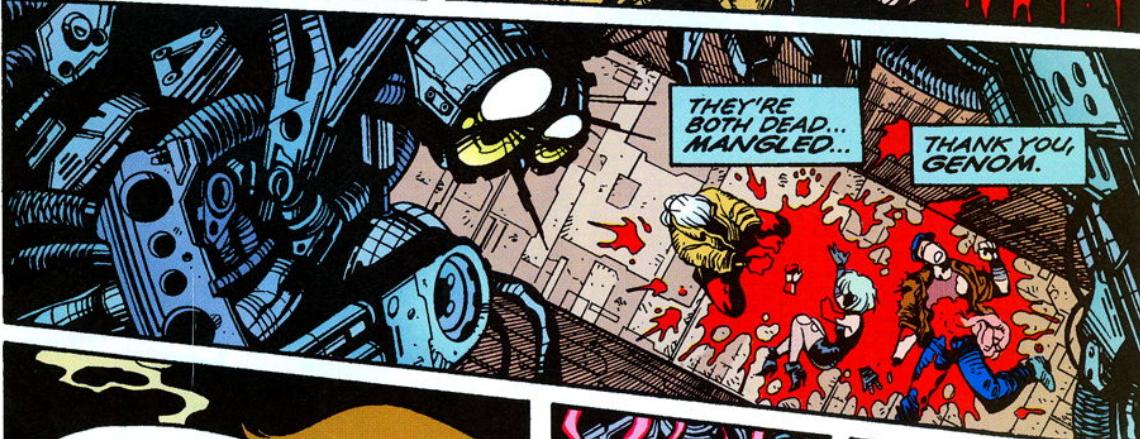


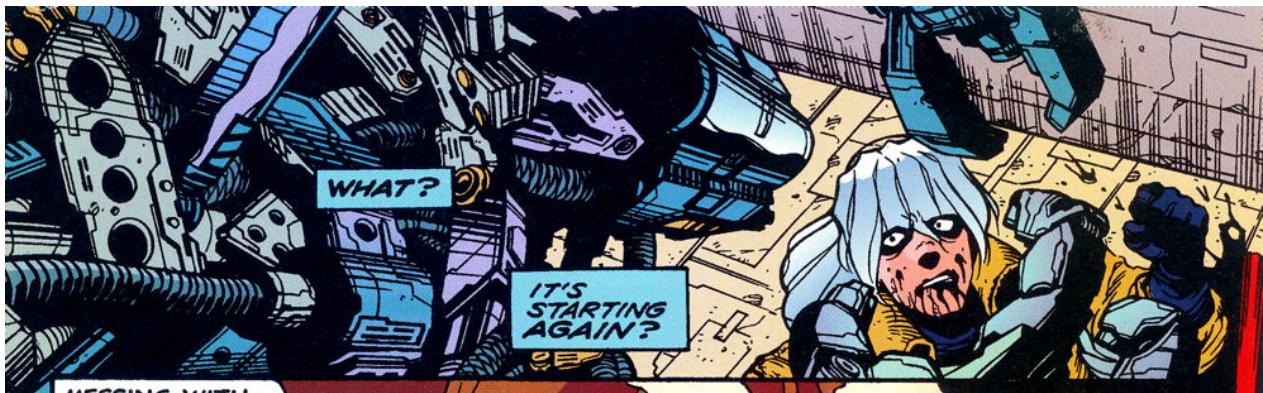








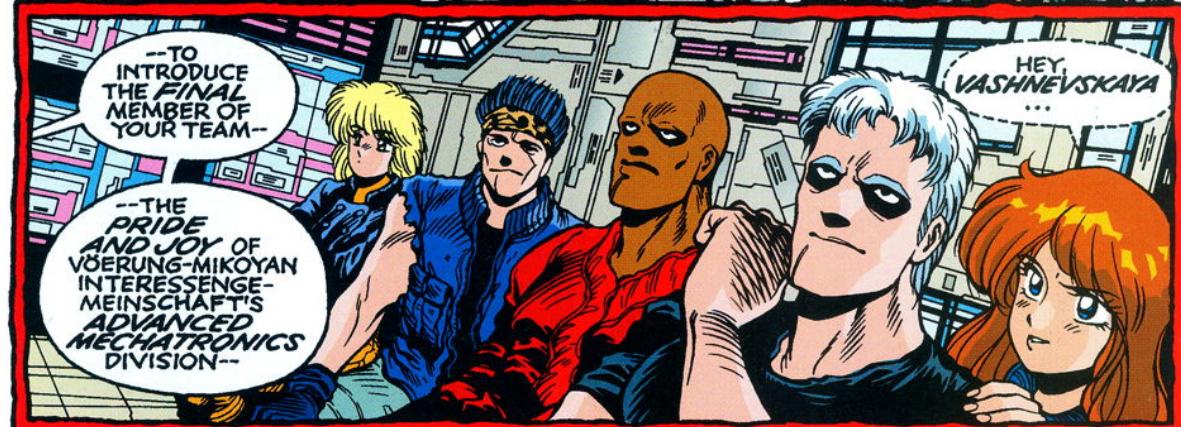
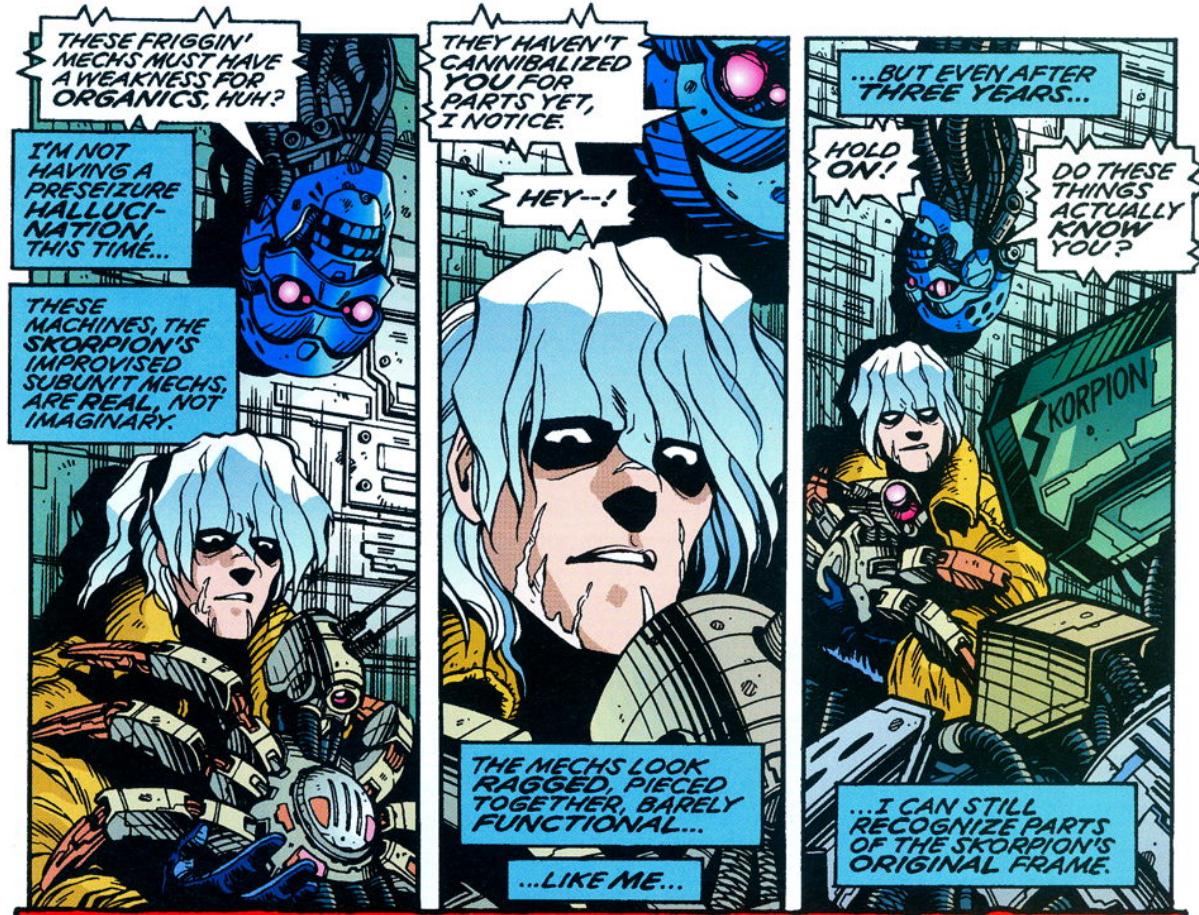


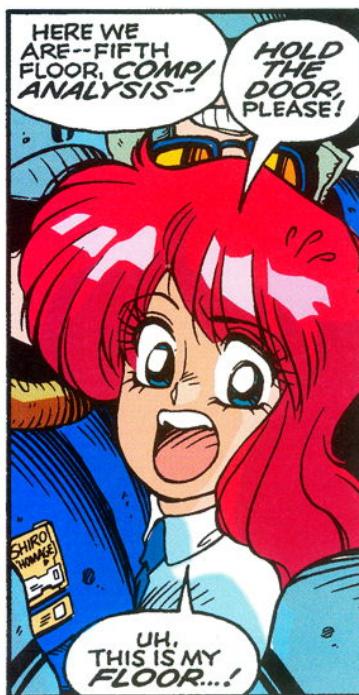
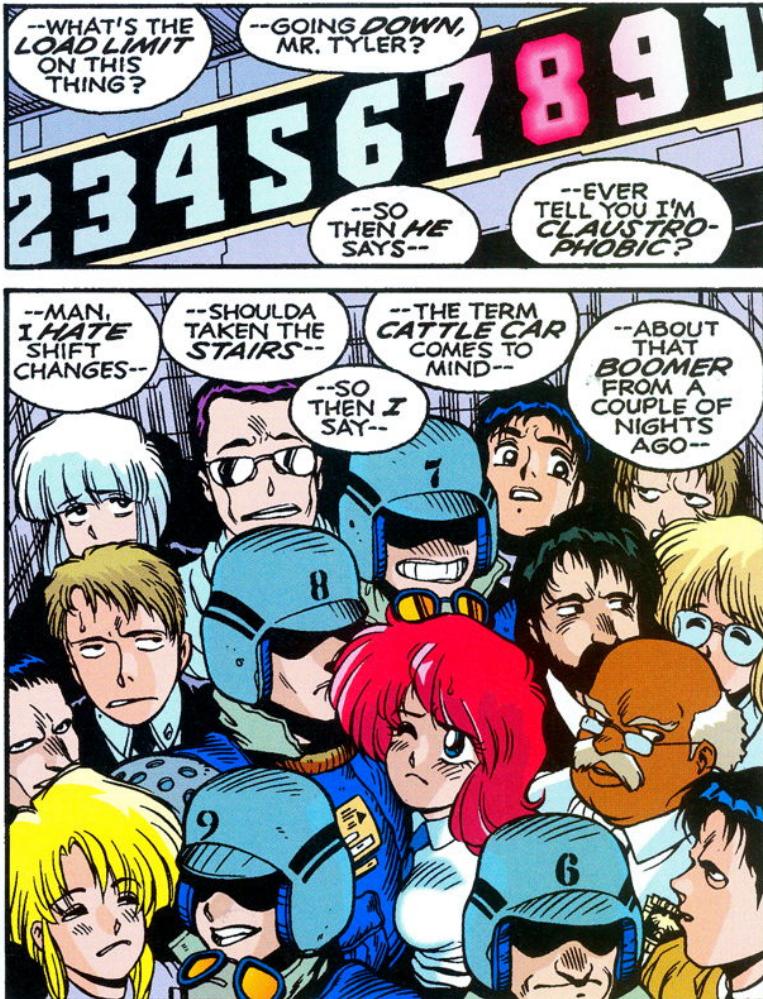


## CHAPTER THREE











THREE YEARS AGO,  
FEELING THE ECO-  
NOMIC BITE FROM  
GENOM, A CON-  
SORTIUM OF AILING  
EUROPEAN CORPO-  
RATIONS HIRED MY  
EXTRACTION TEAM.

C'MON, MAN...

WE CAME TO MEGATOKYO,  
THE VERY LION'S DEN,  
TO SNAG ONE OF GENOM'S  
"INTELLECTUAL ASSETS."

HAVE SOME  
SYMPATHY, HUH?  
I'M NOT LIKE THESE  
IDIOT MECHS...

I'M A  
SENTIENT  
BEING LIKE  
YOU, DAMN  
IT...

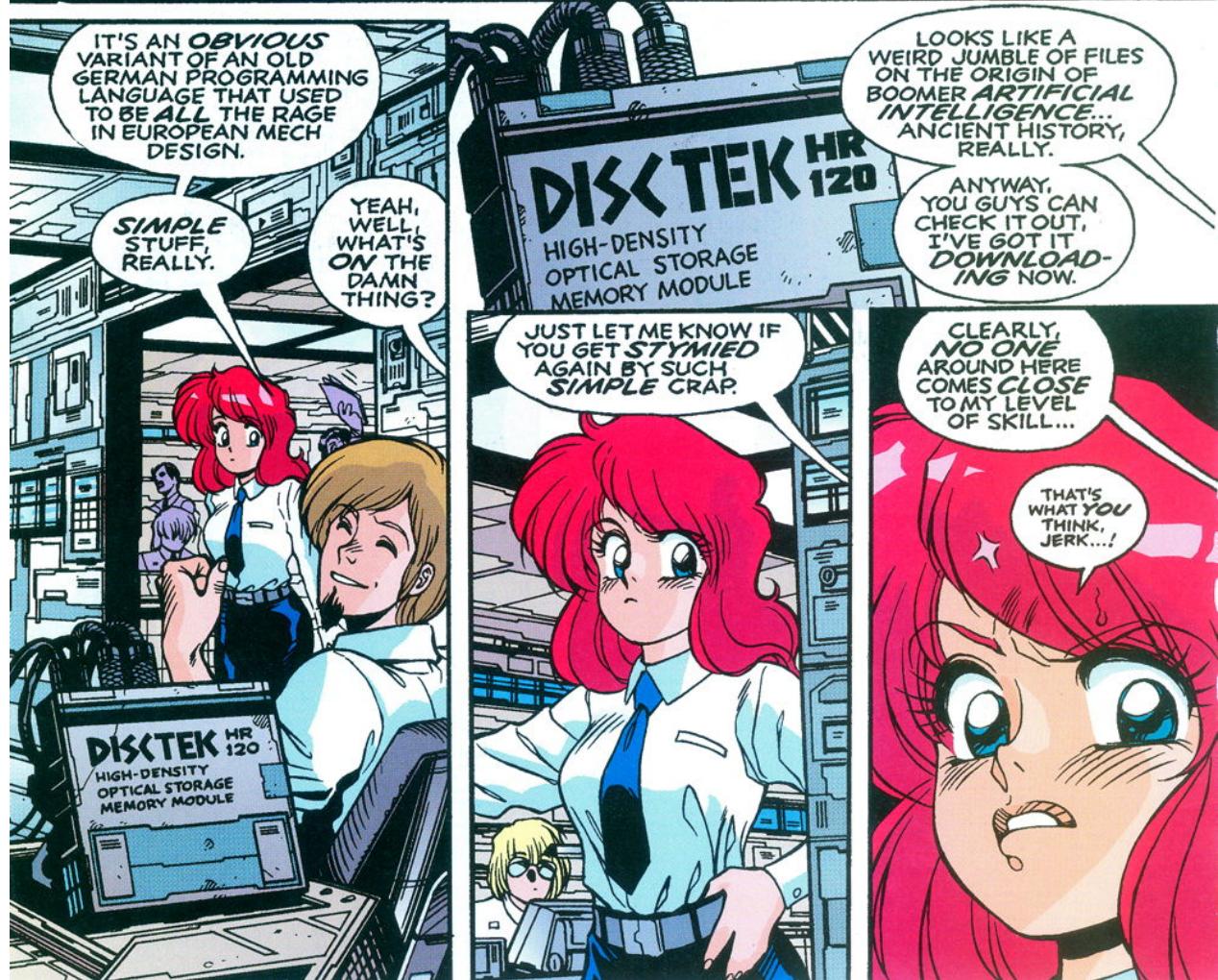
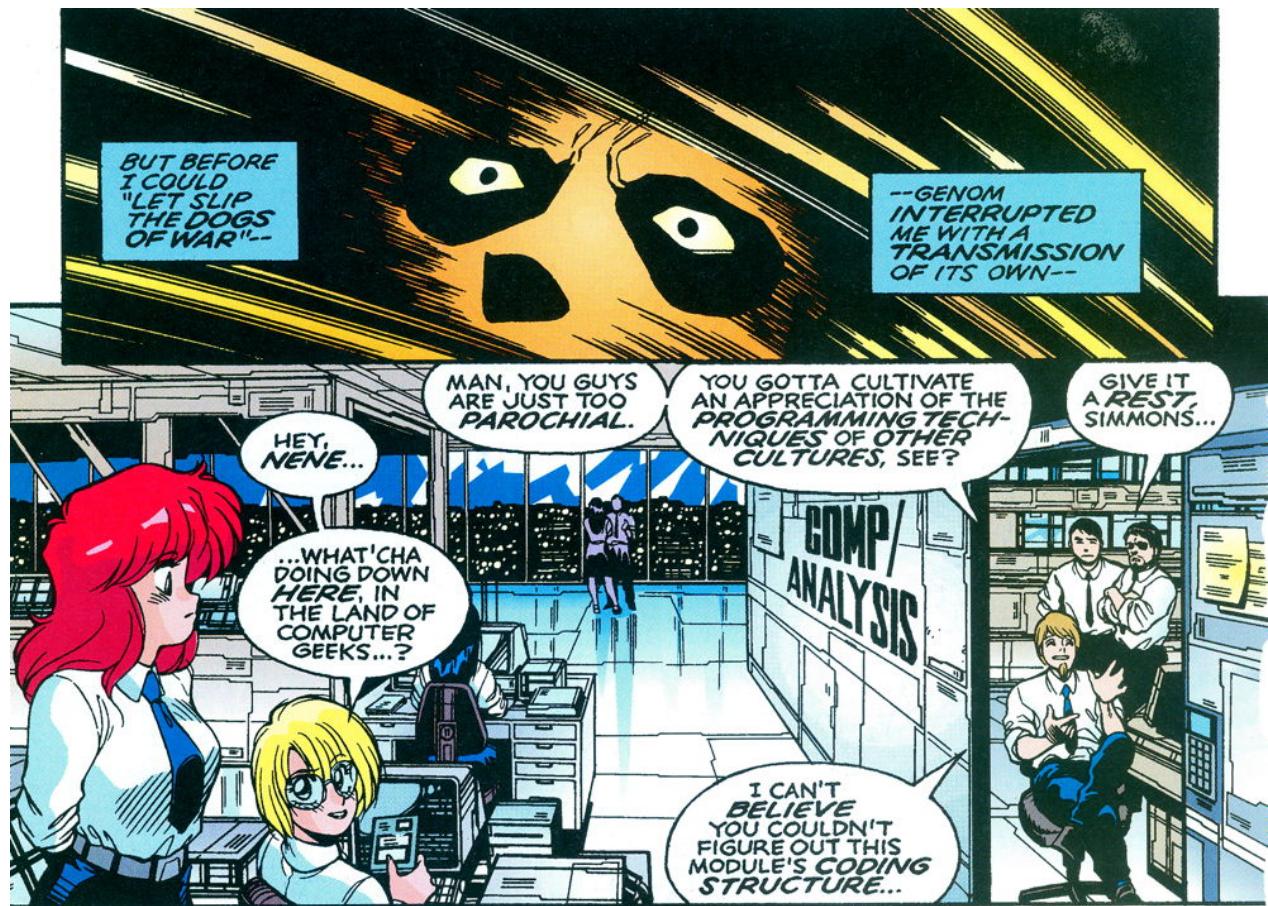
COMBAT BOOMERS, SIMI-  
LAR TO MY DECAPITATED  
FRIEND HERE, AMBUSHED  
US IN TOKYO BAY.

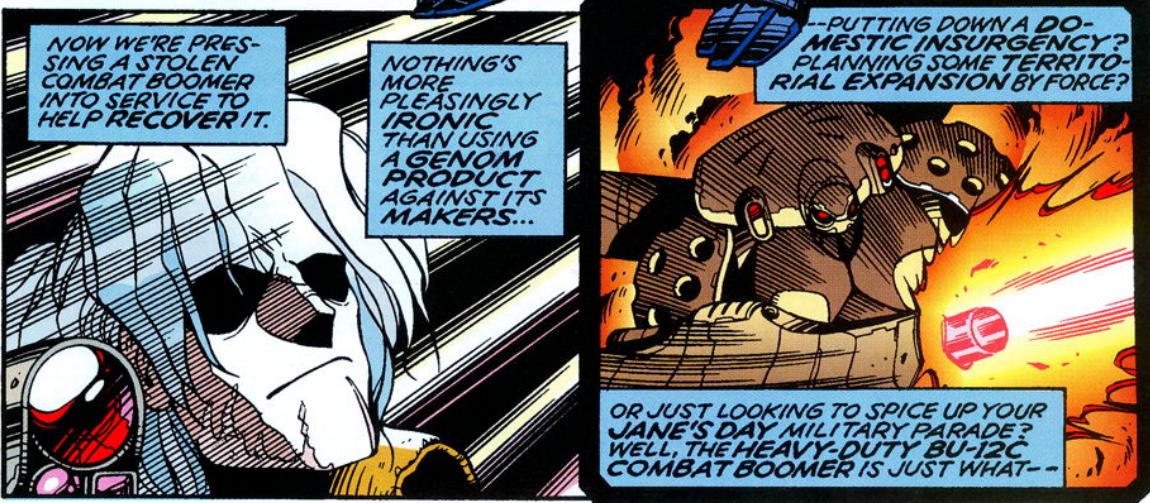
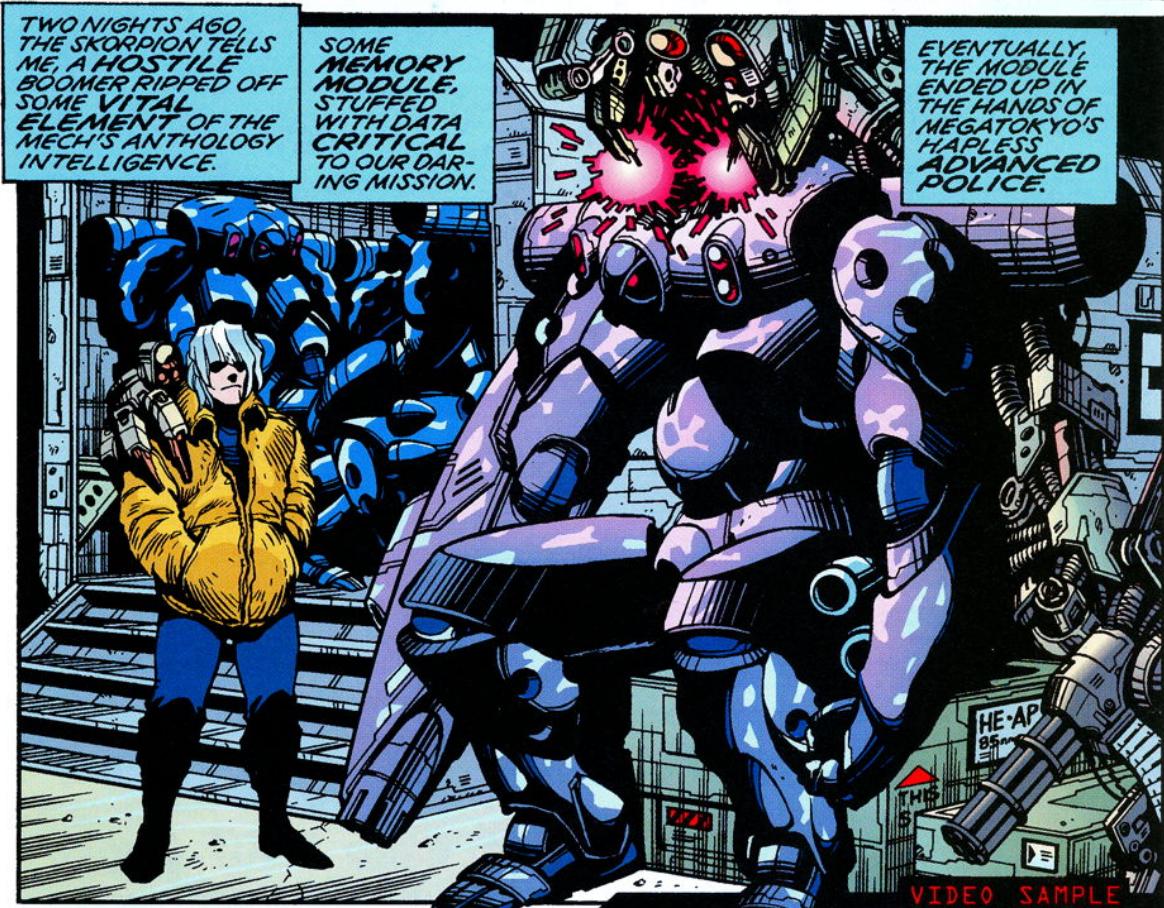
THE HUMAN  
MEMBERS OF THE  
TEAM FACED  
CERTAIN DEATH.

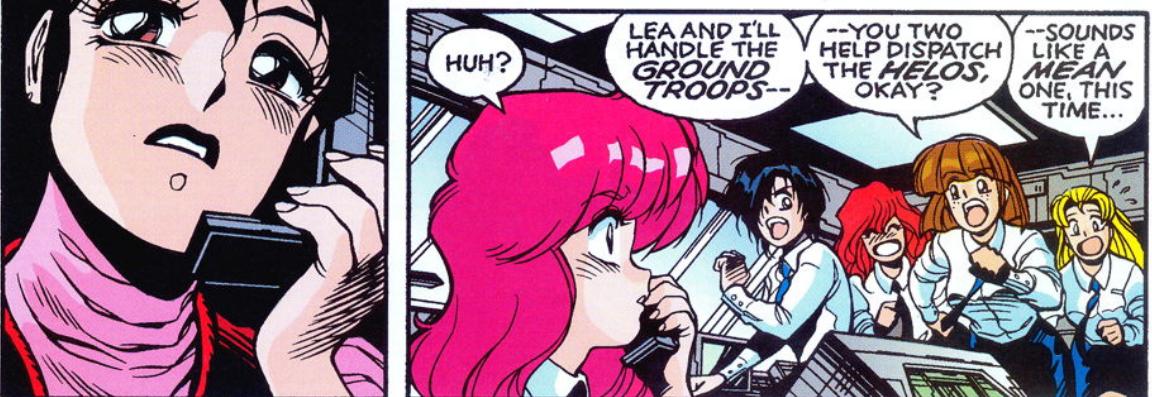
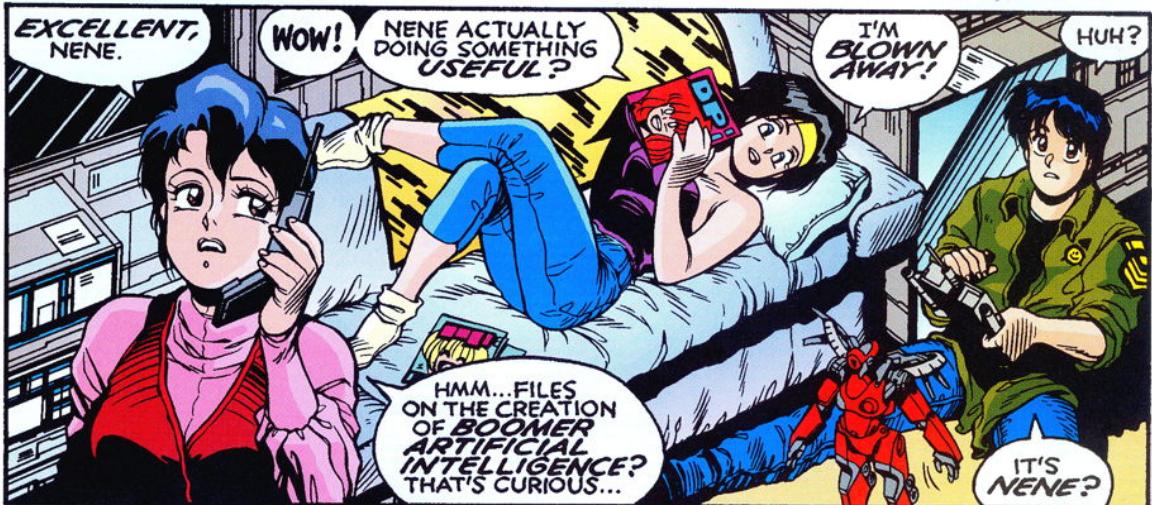
BUT THE SKORPION  
HAD ALREADY BEEN  
SHIPPED TO MEGA-  
TOKYO, WEEKS AHEAD  
OF OUR ARRIVAL.

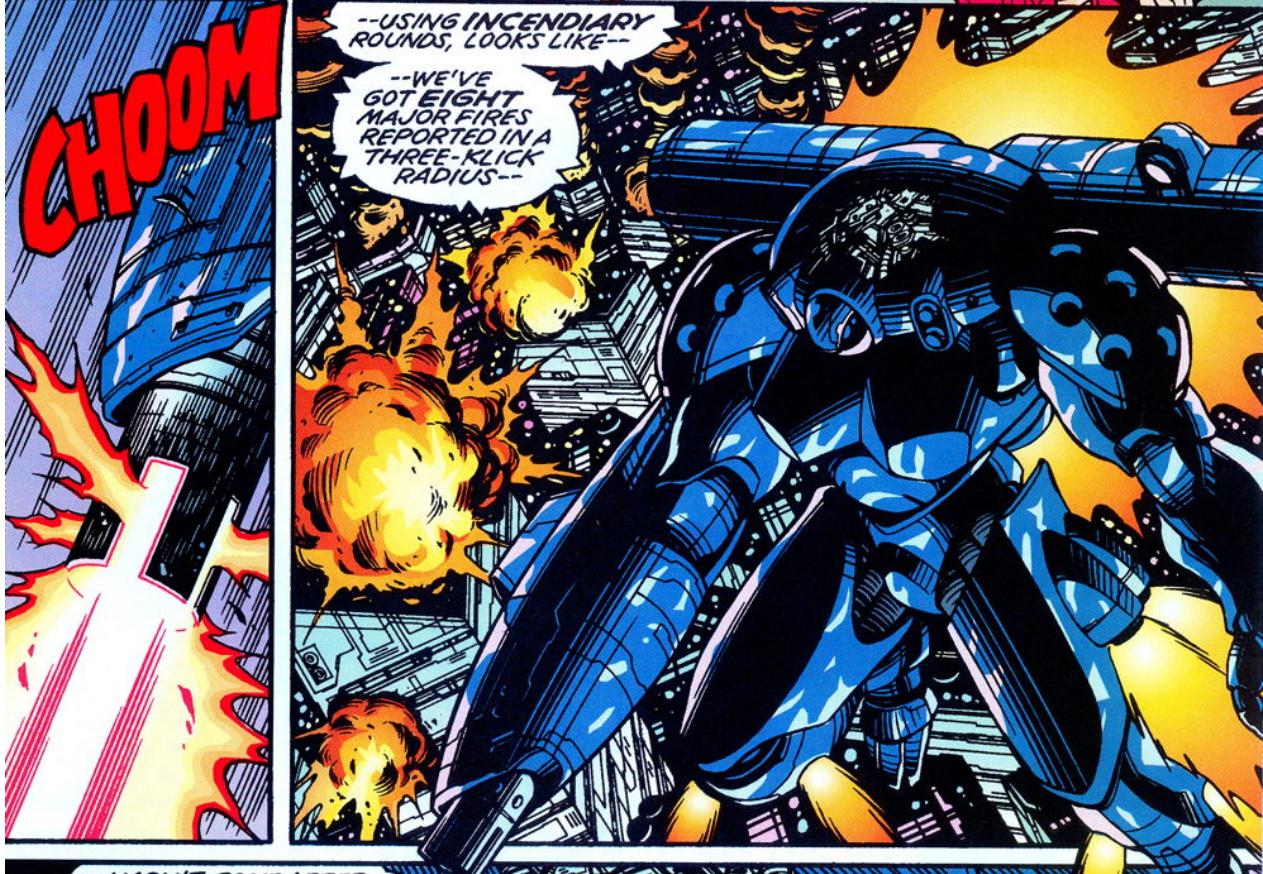
HOPING FOR SOME  
POSTHUMOUS  
REVENGE,  
I STARTED TO  
TRANSMIT THE  
SKORPION'S ACTI-  
VATION CODE.

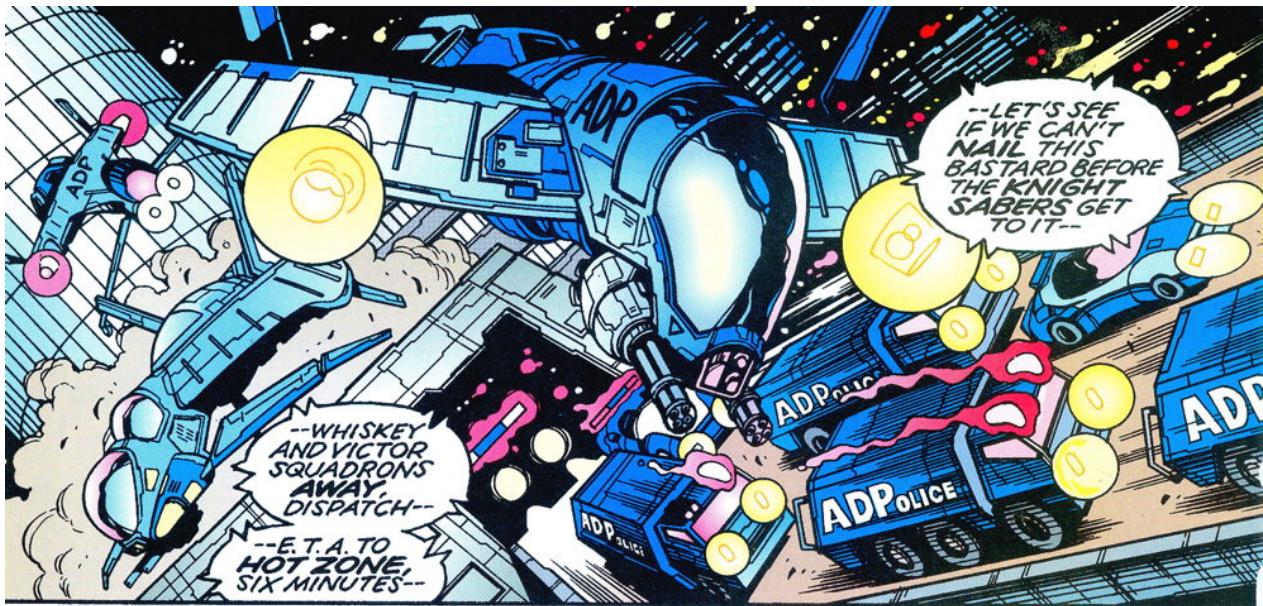
MAYBE THE MECH  
COULD DO SOME  
DAMAGE TO  
GENOM ON ITS OWN.

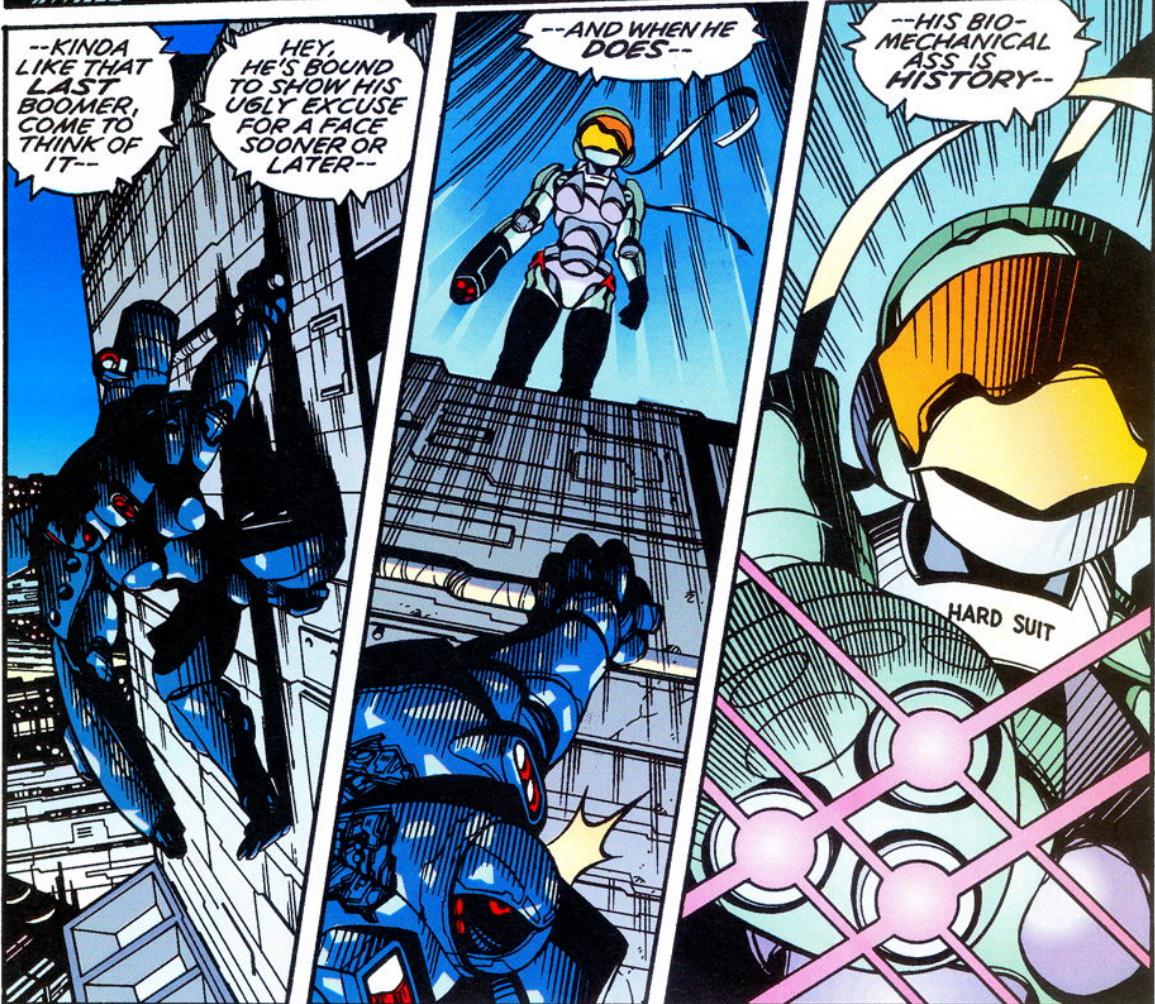
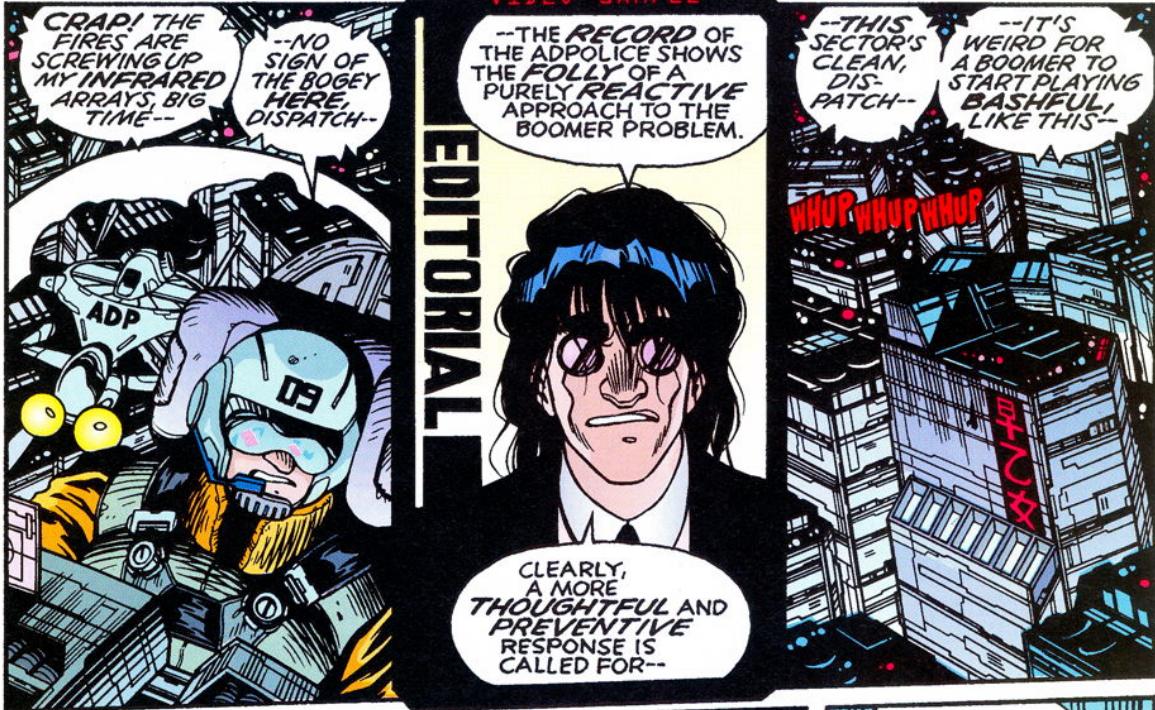


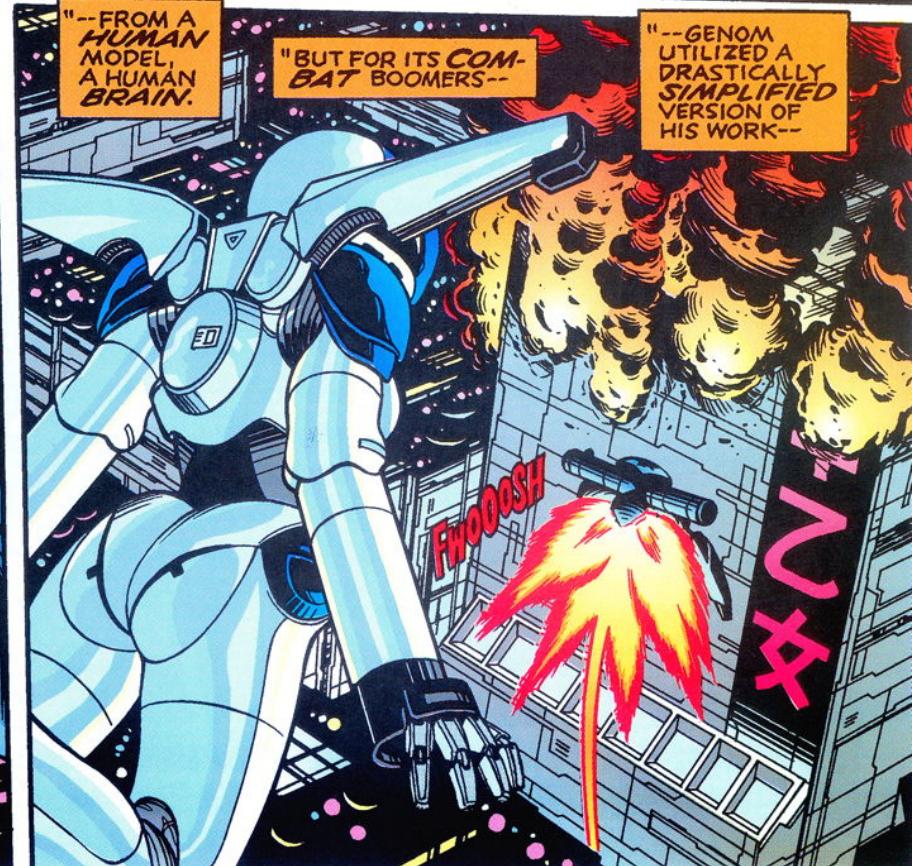
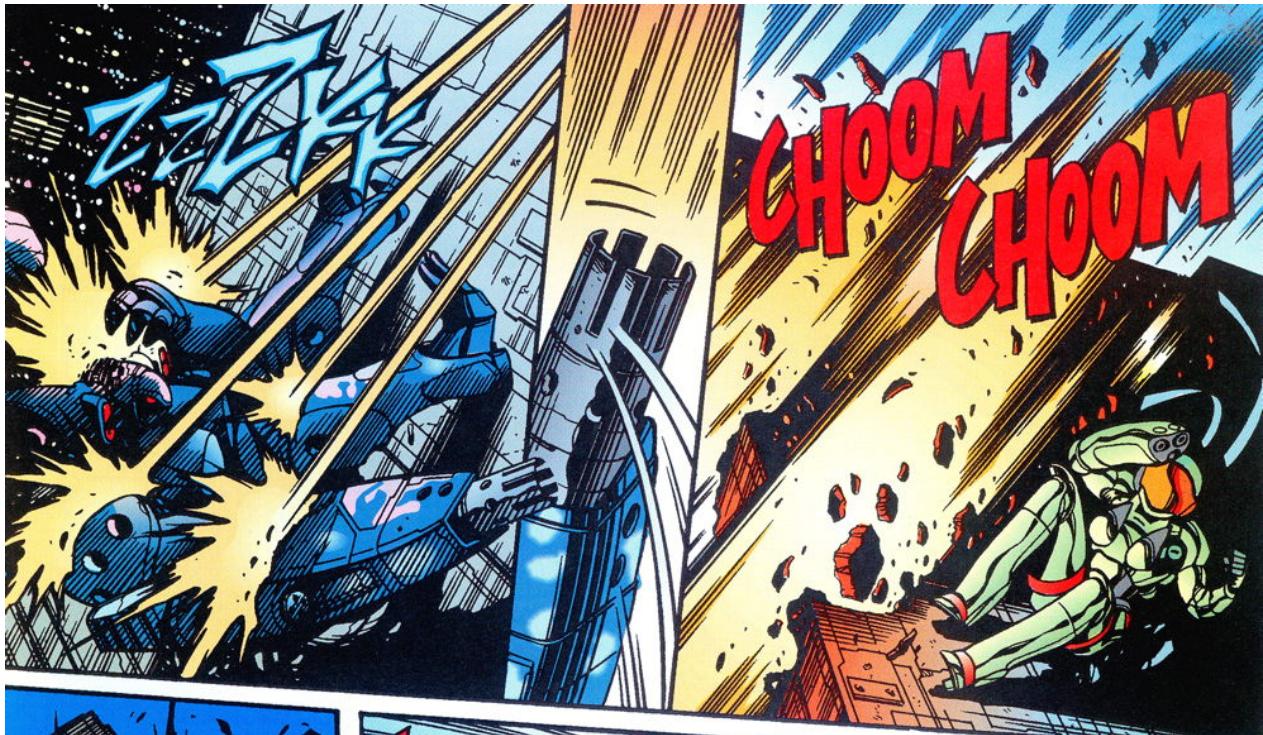










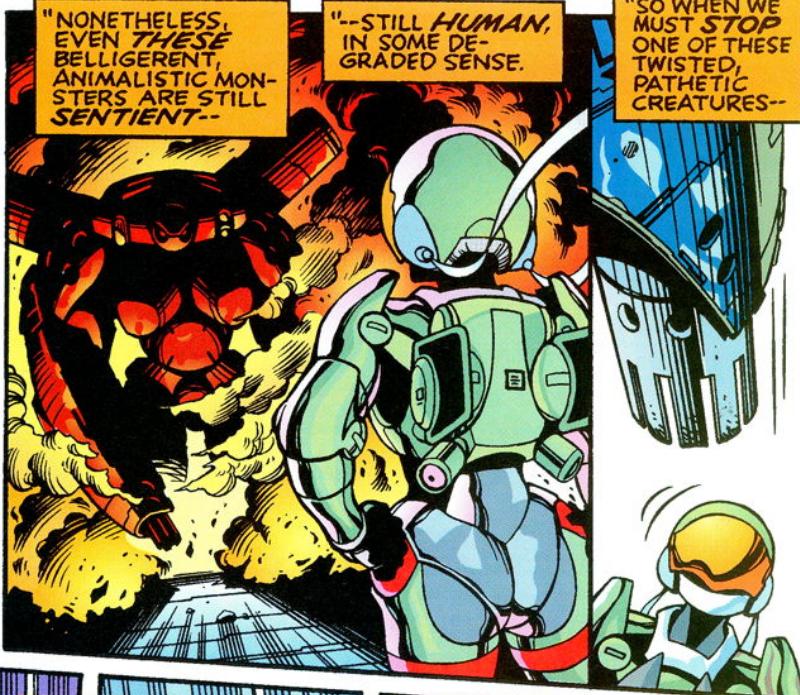


"--FAR MORE UNSTABLE, BUT MUCH CHEAPER TO MASS PRODUCE.



KCHAK

"NONETHELESS, EVEN THESE BELLIGERENT, ANIMALISTIC MONSTERS ARE STILL SENTIENT--"



"--STILL HUMAN, IN SOME DEGRADED SENSE."

"SO WHEN WE MUST STOP ONE OF THESE TWISTED, PATHETIC CREATURES--"

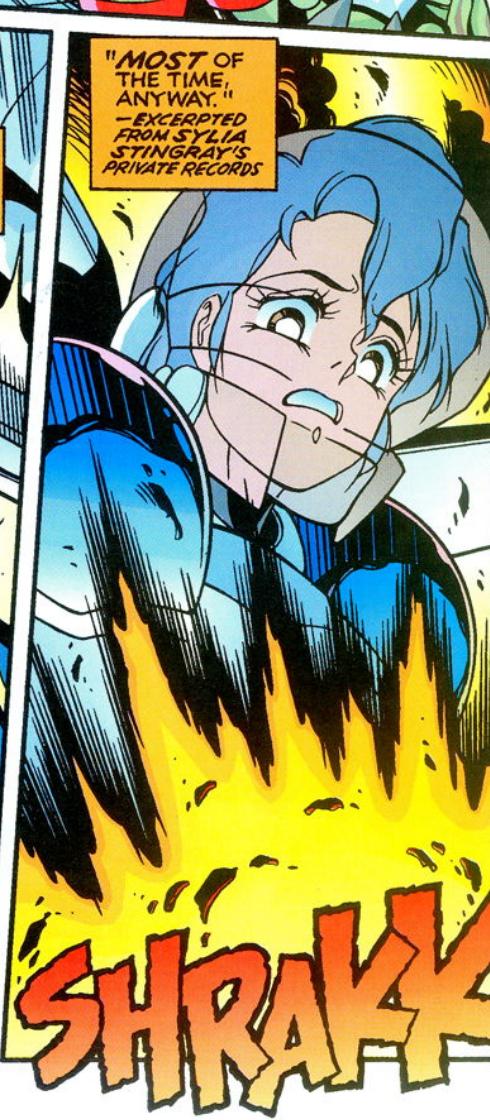


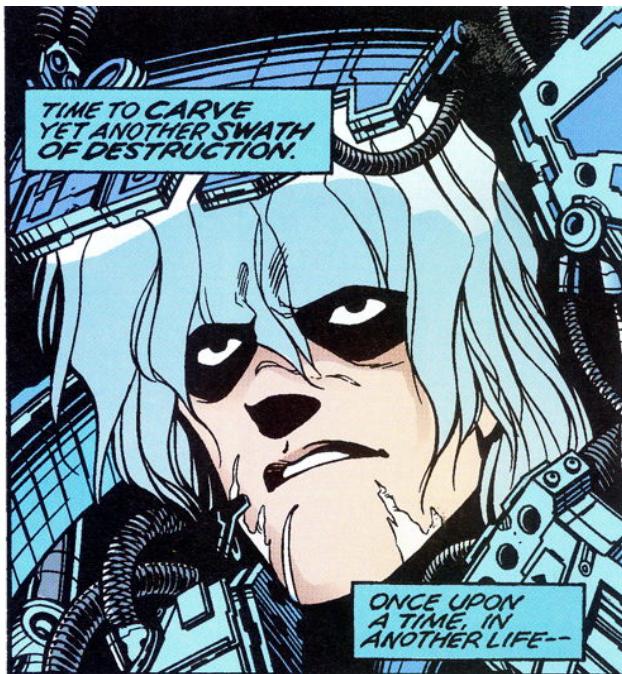
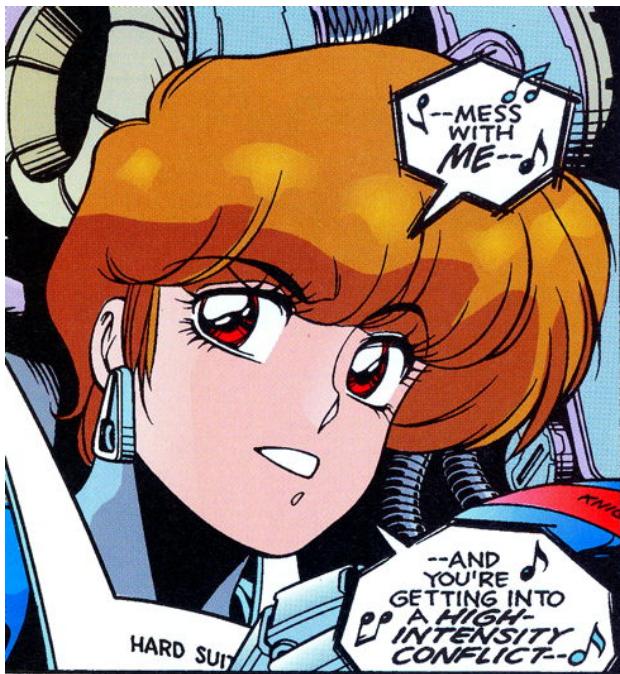
"--I TRY TO MAKE THEIR END--"

"--AS QUICK AND AS MERCIFUL AS POSSIBLE."

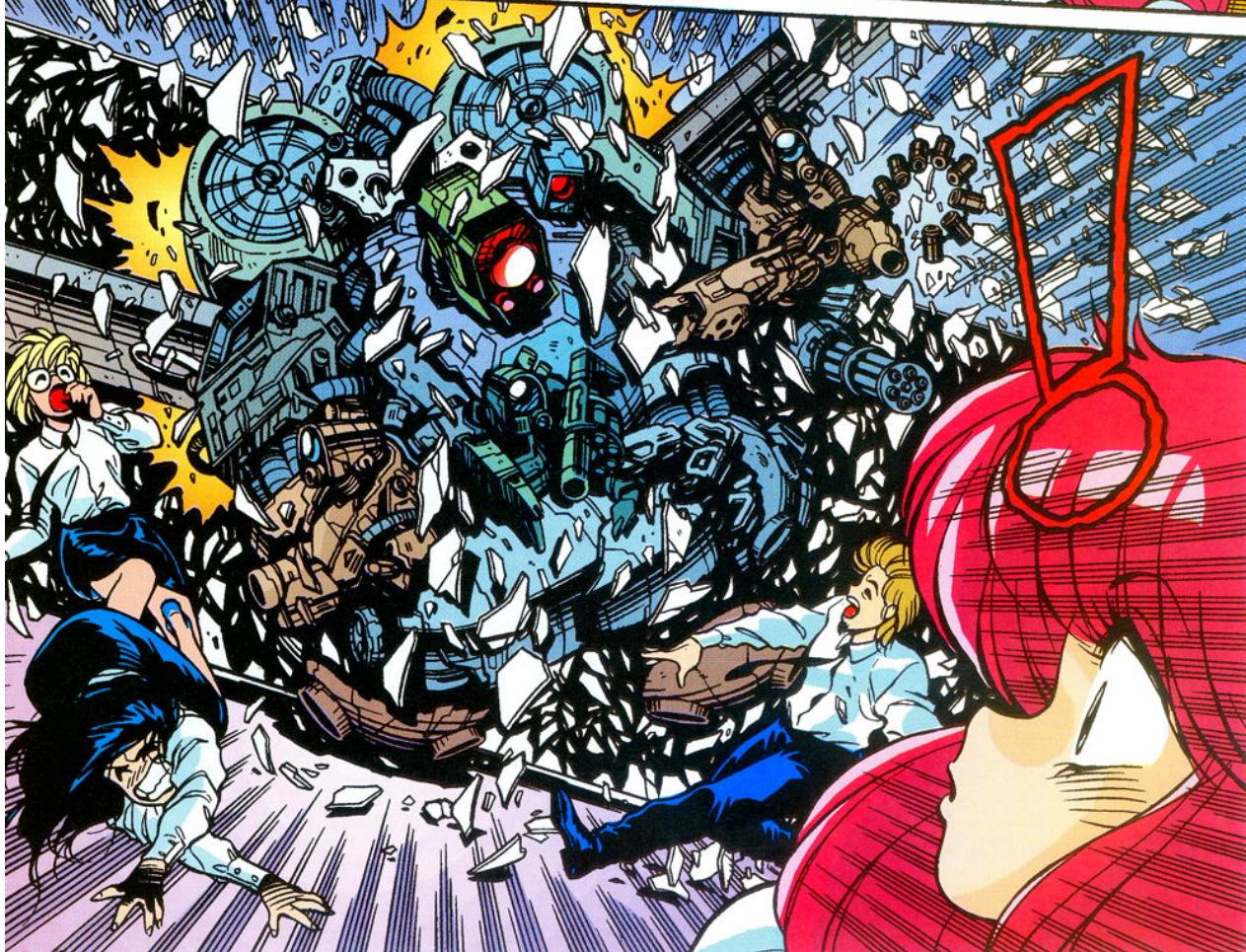
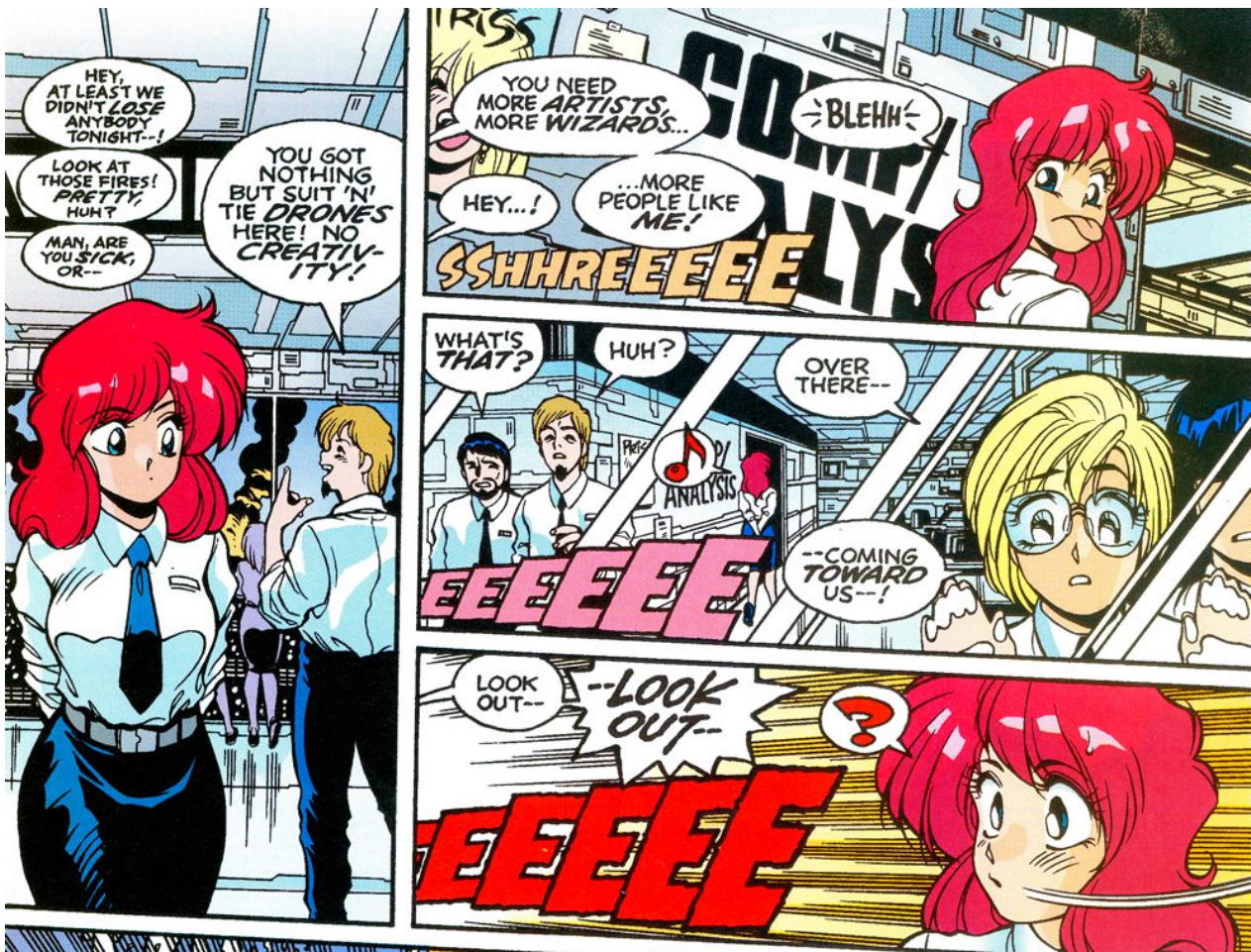
"MOST OF THE TIME, ANYWAY."

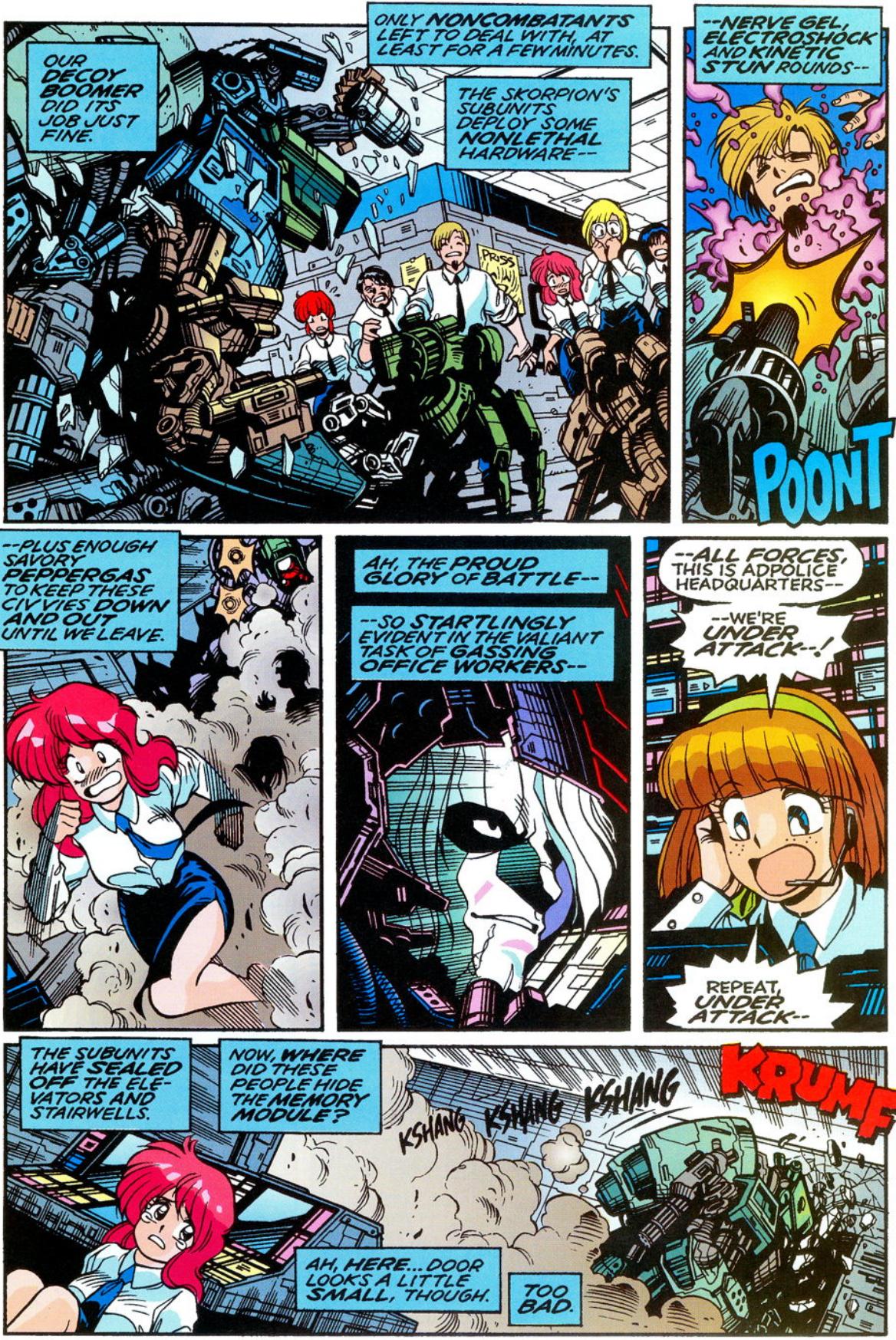
-EXCERPTED FROM SYLIA STINGRAY'S PRIVATE RECORDS

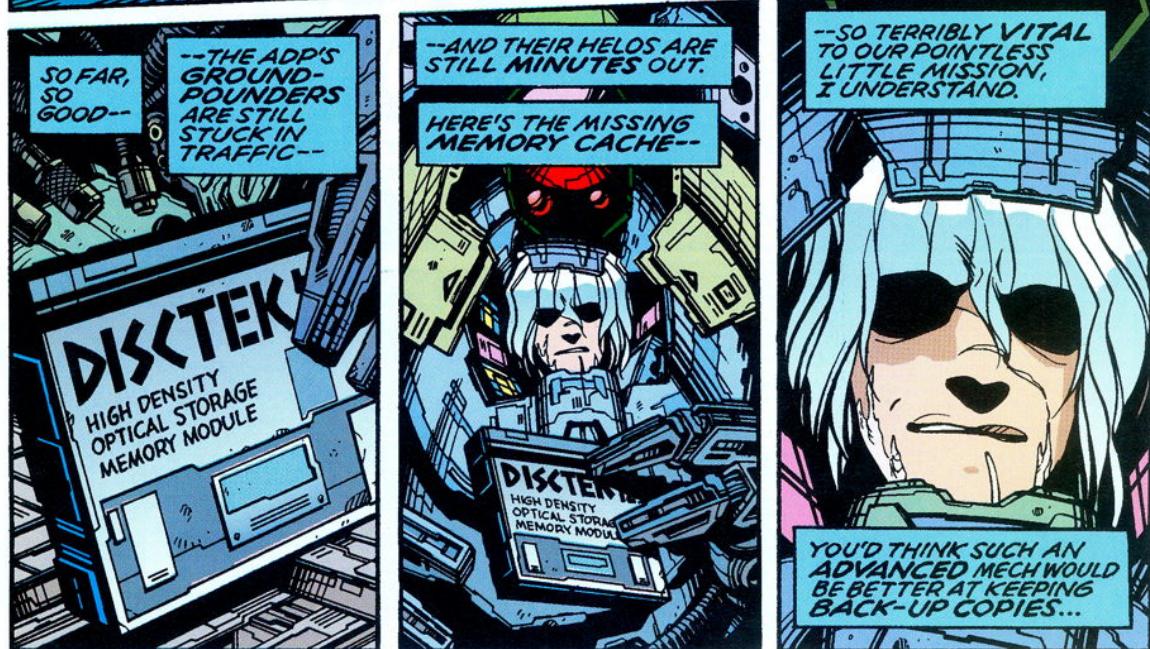
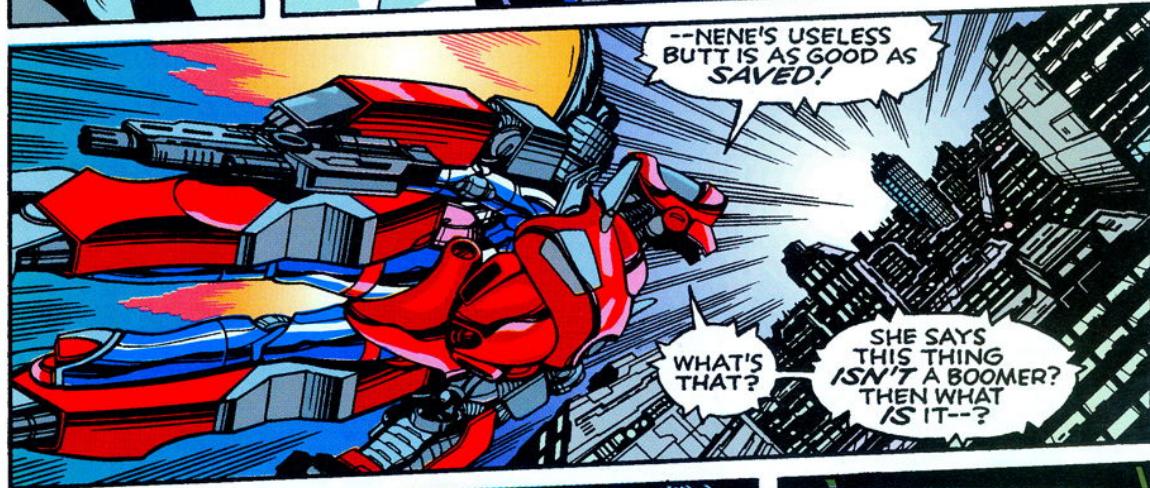


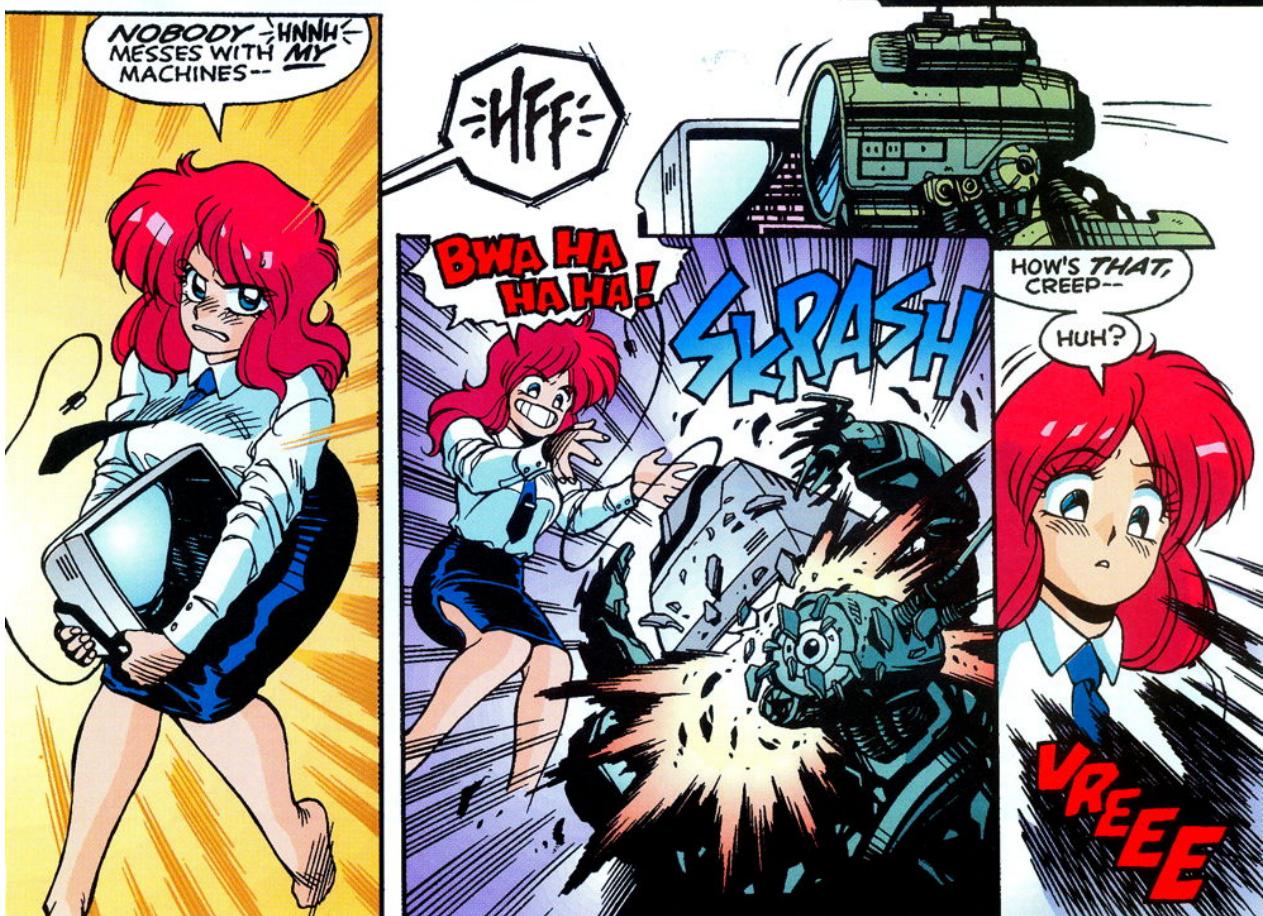
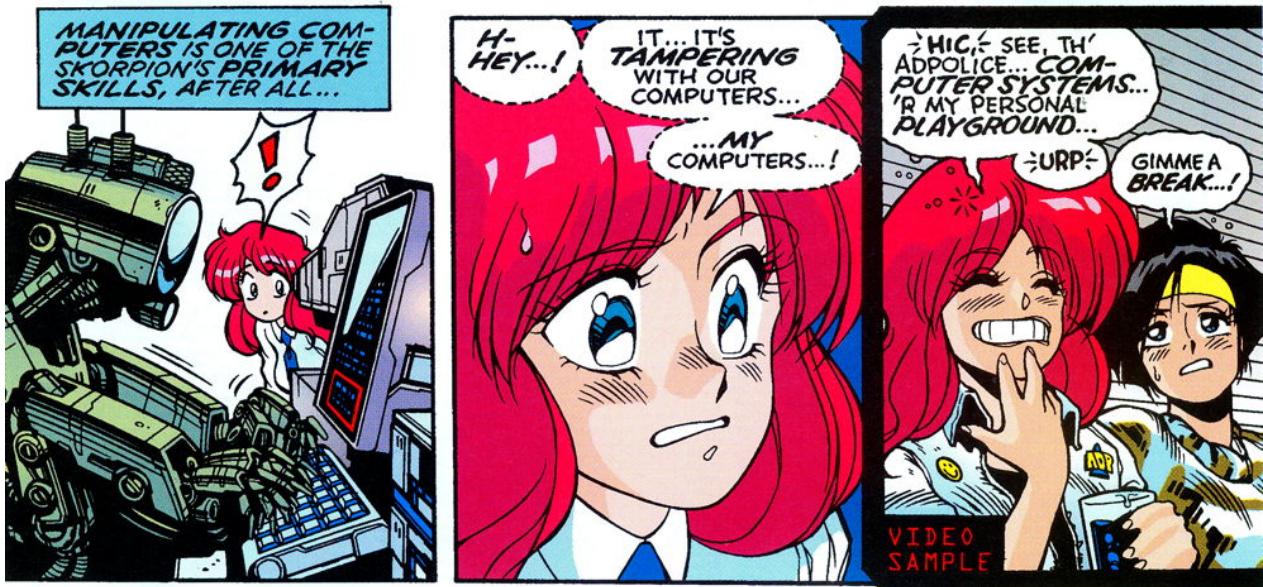
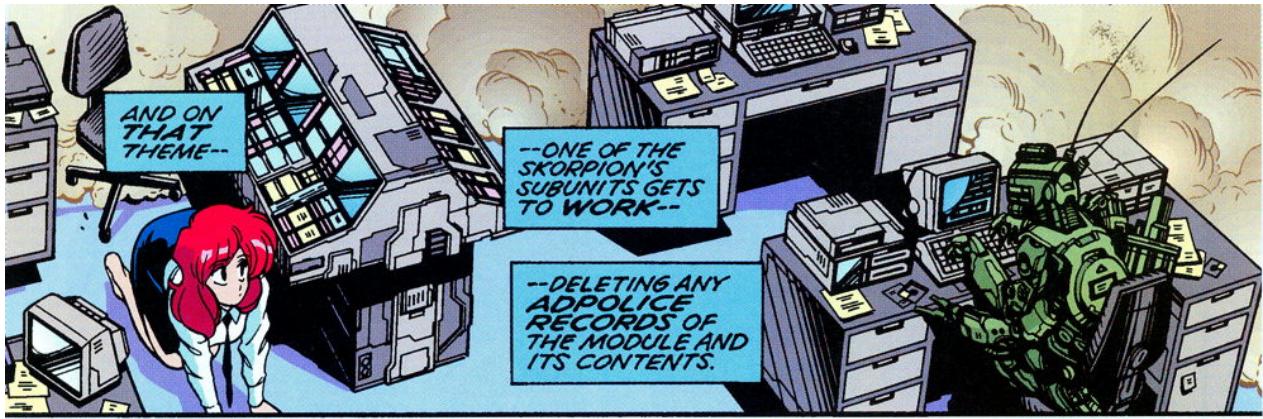


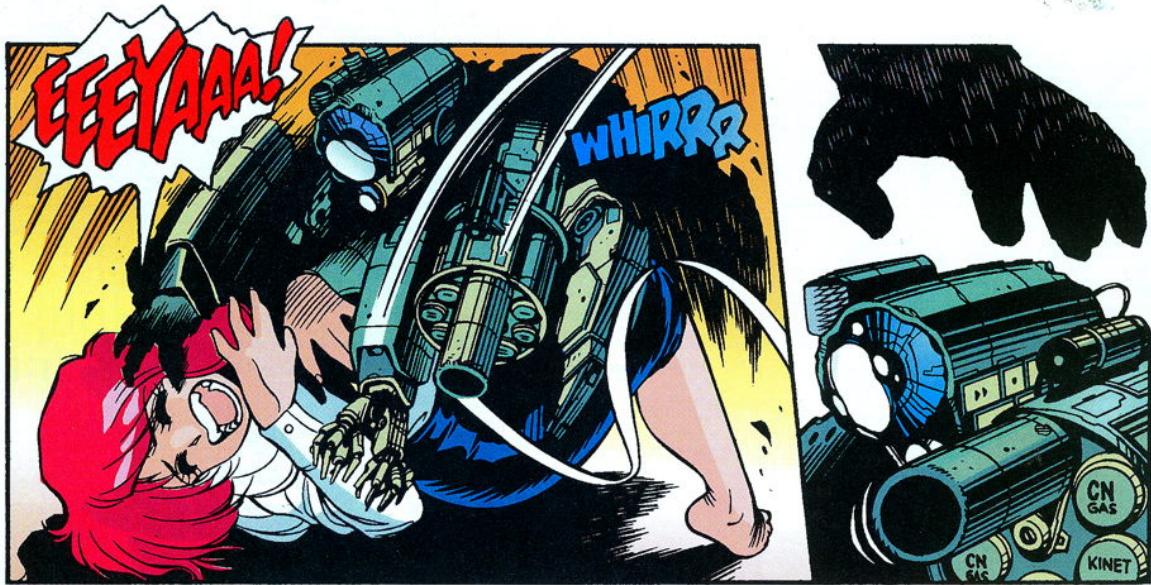


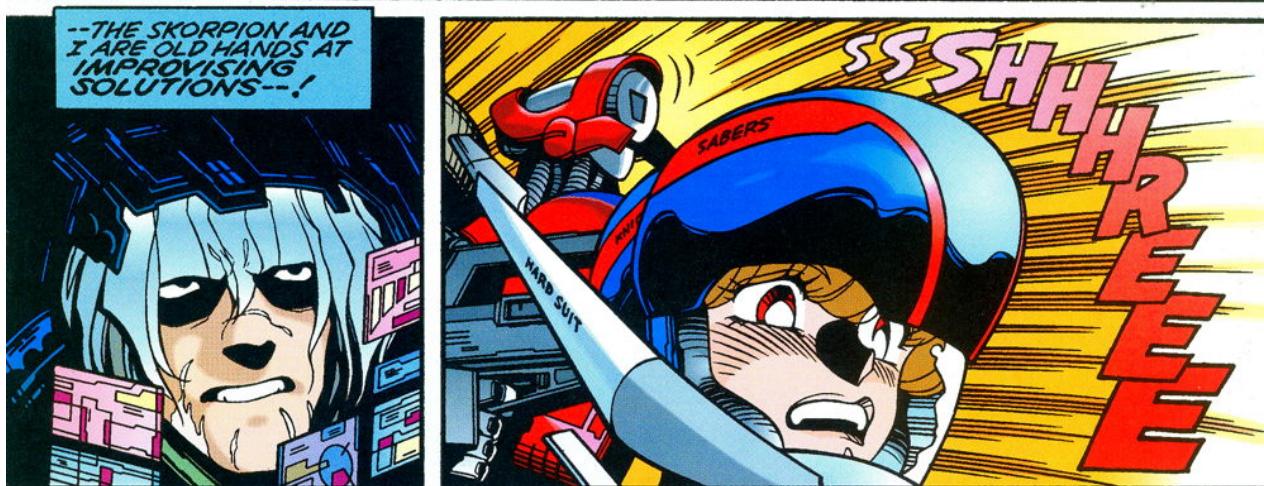
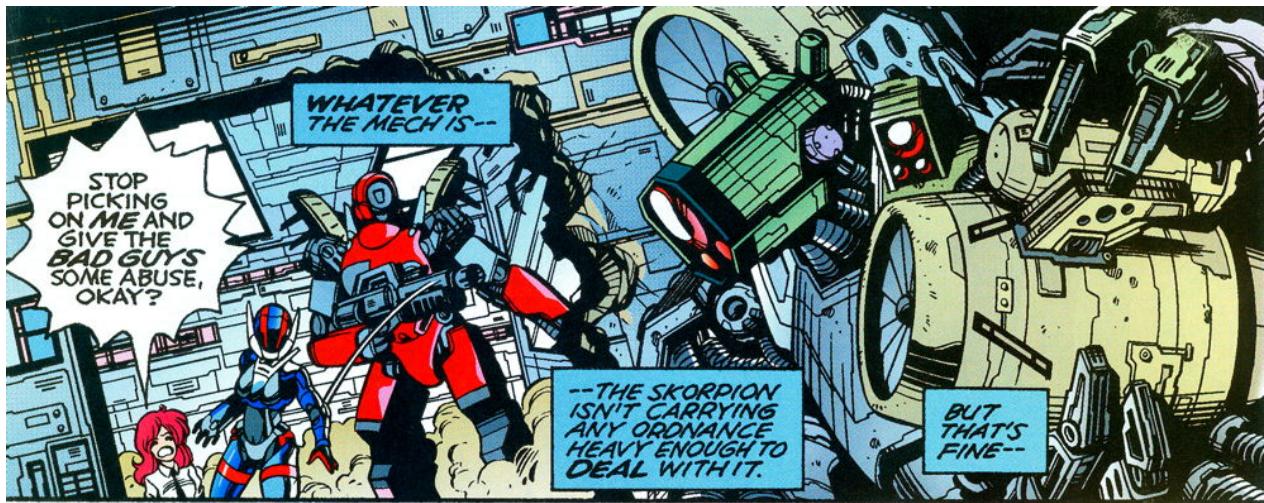


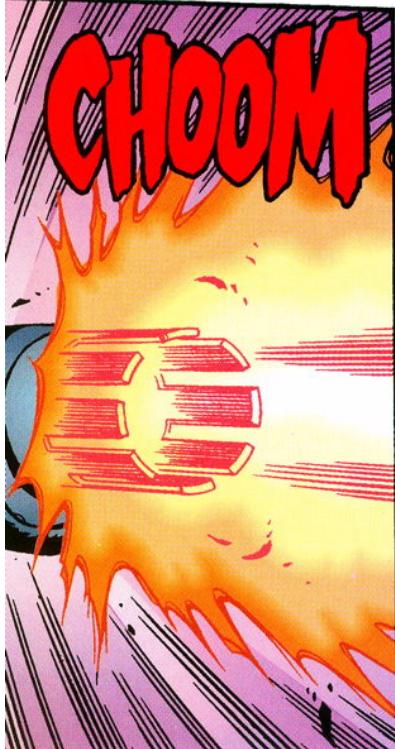
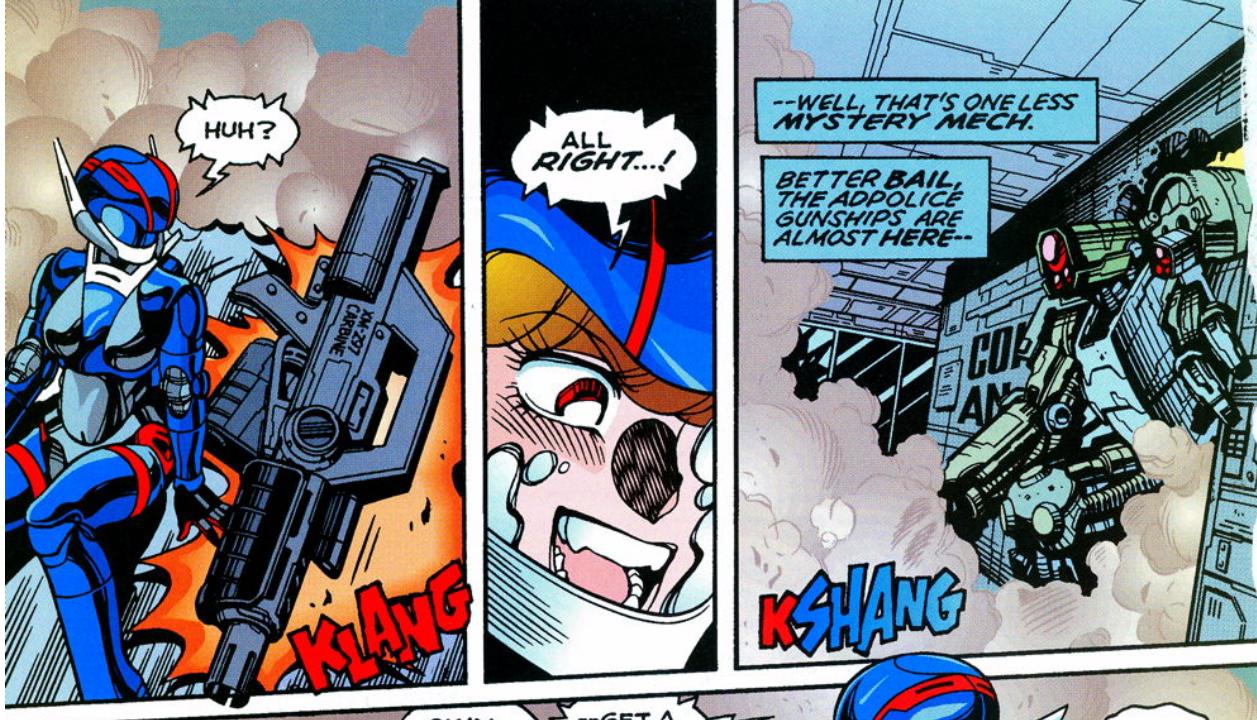


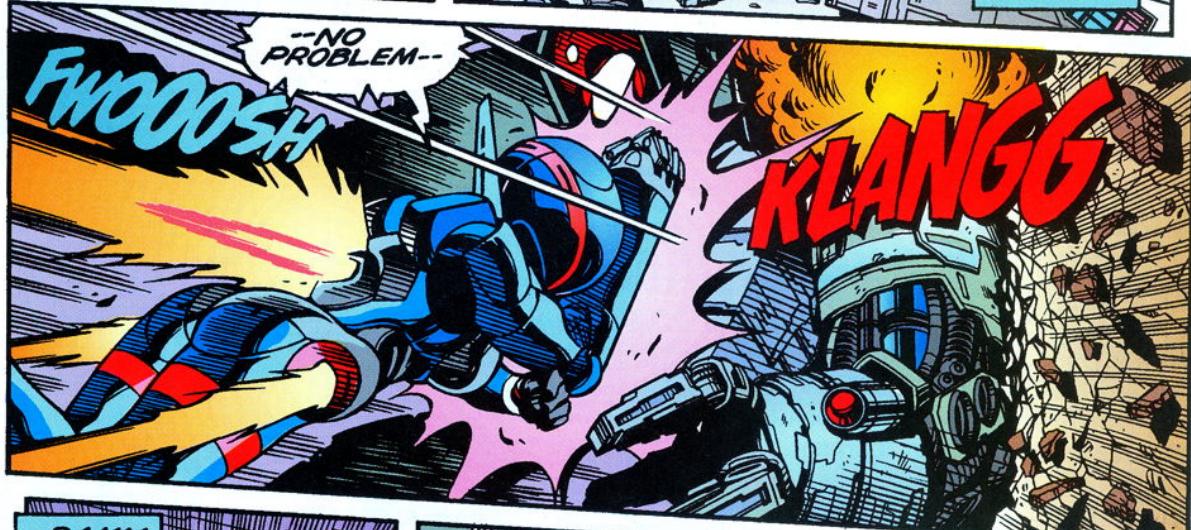
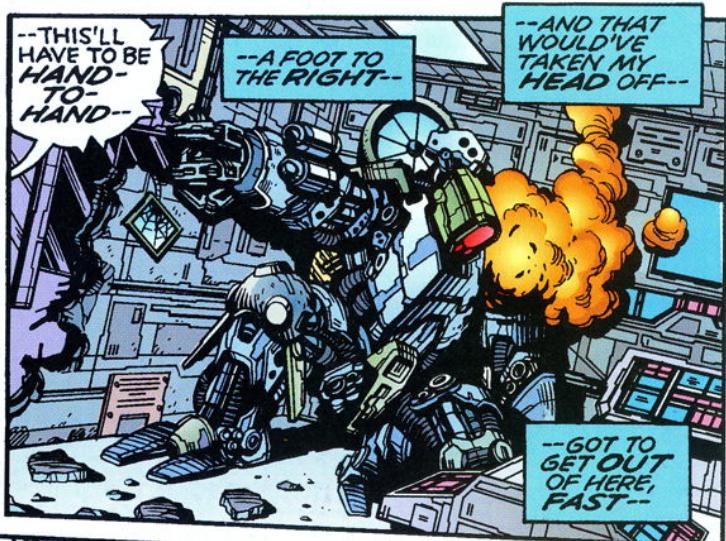


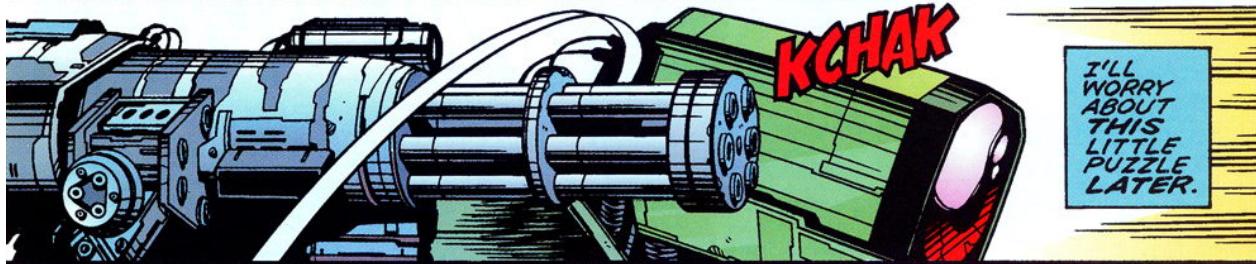


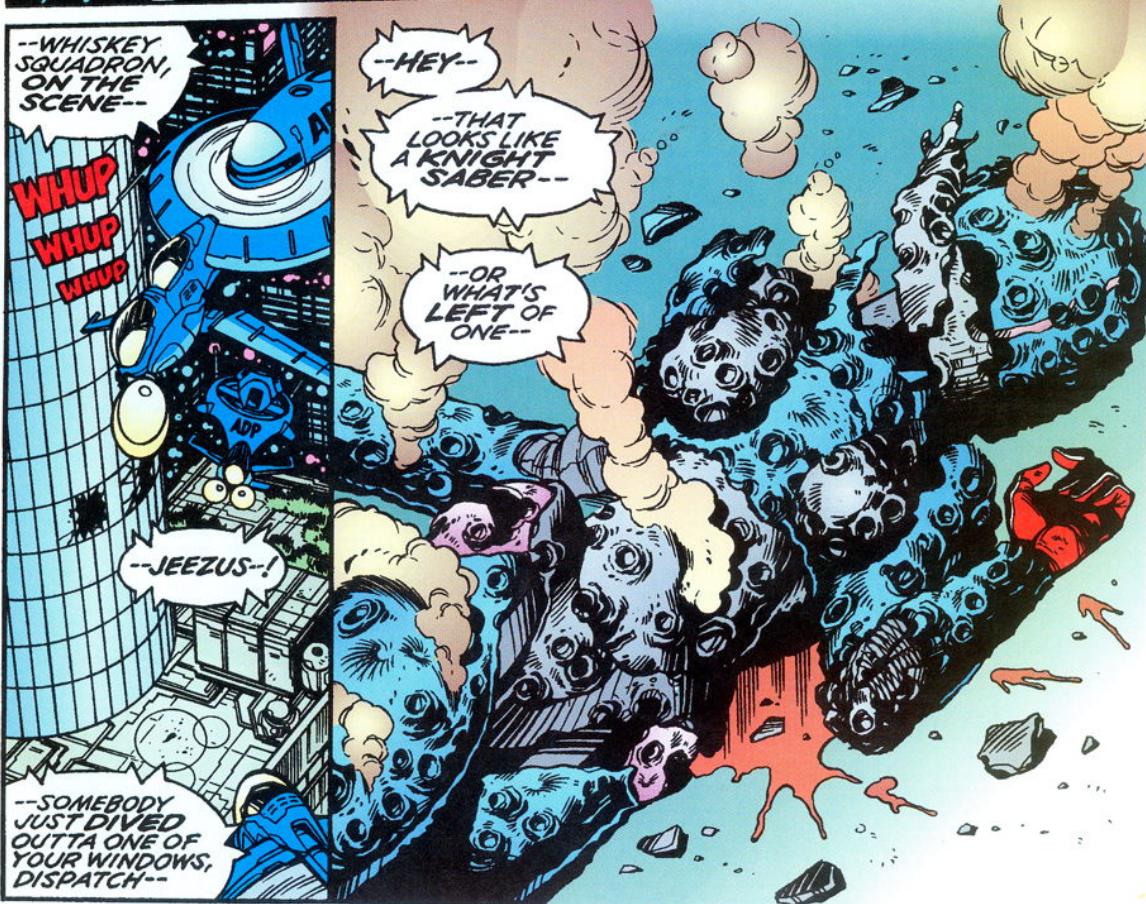
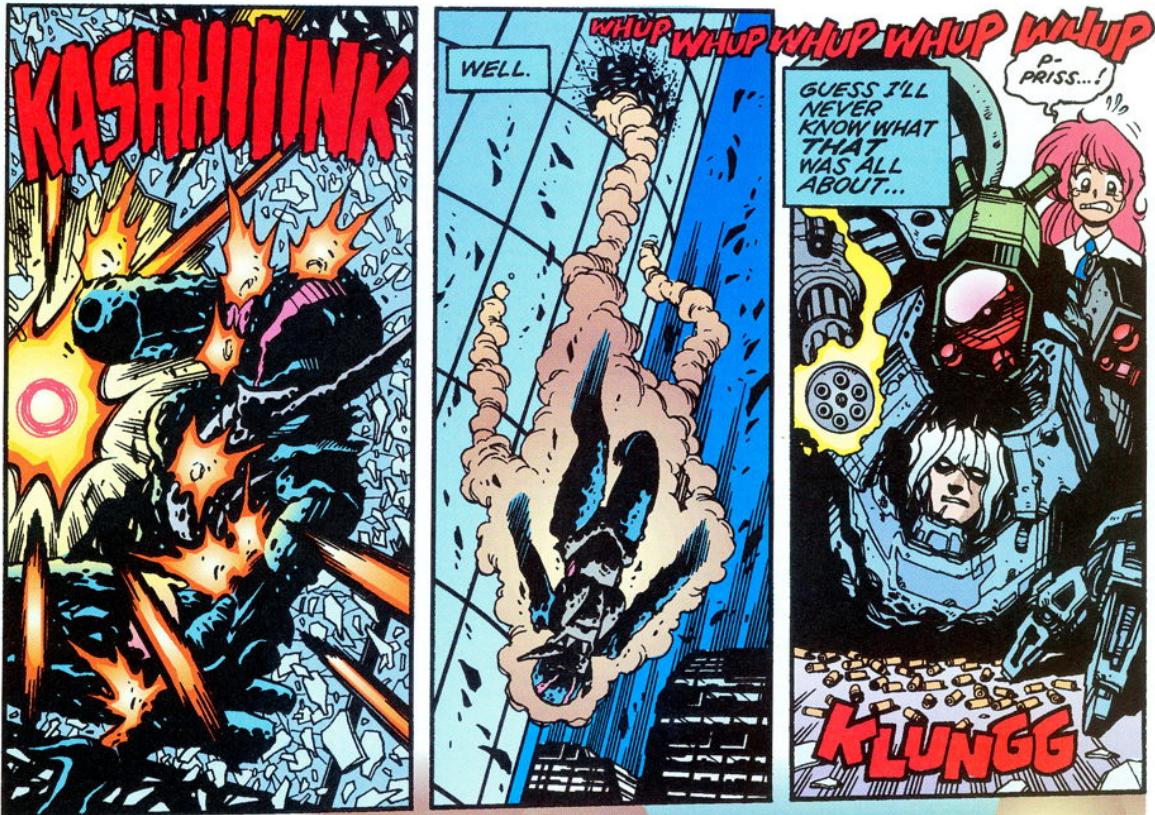






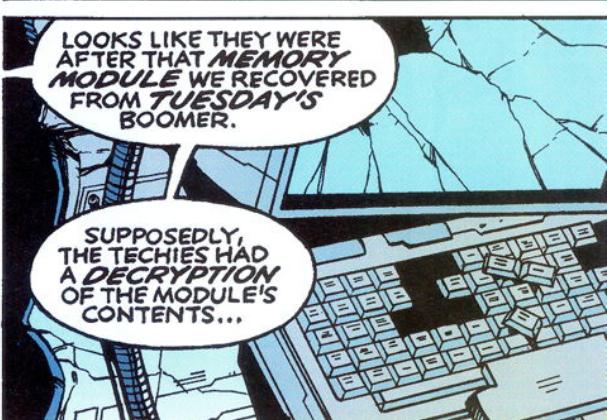
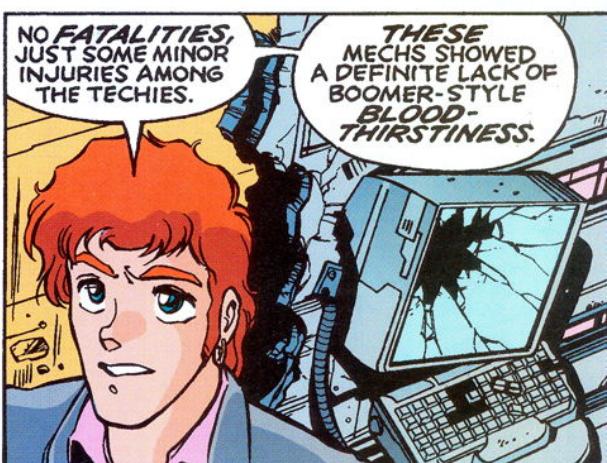
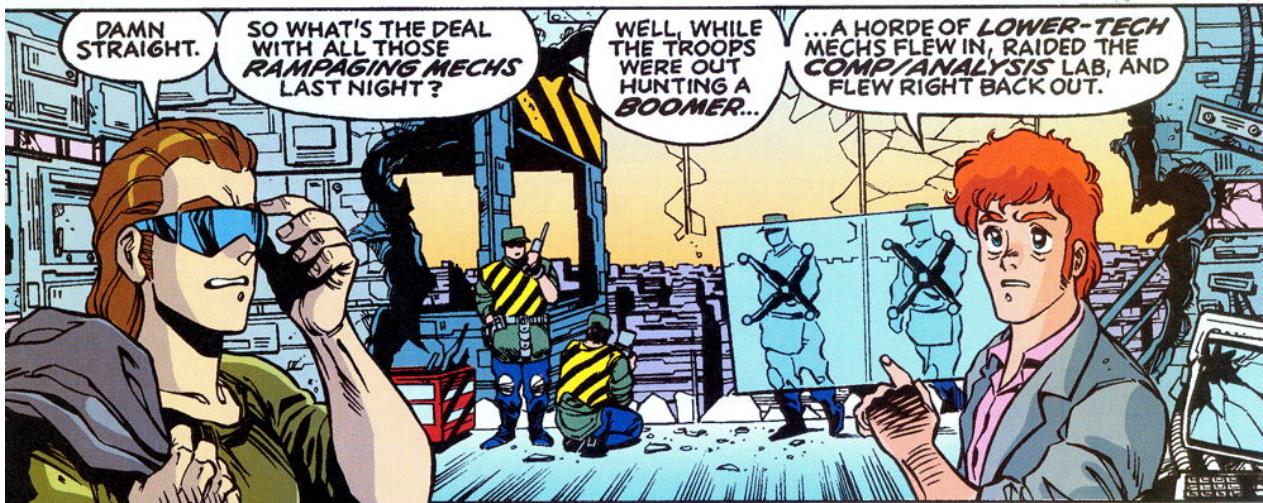
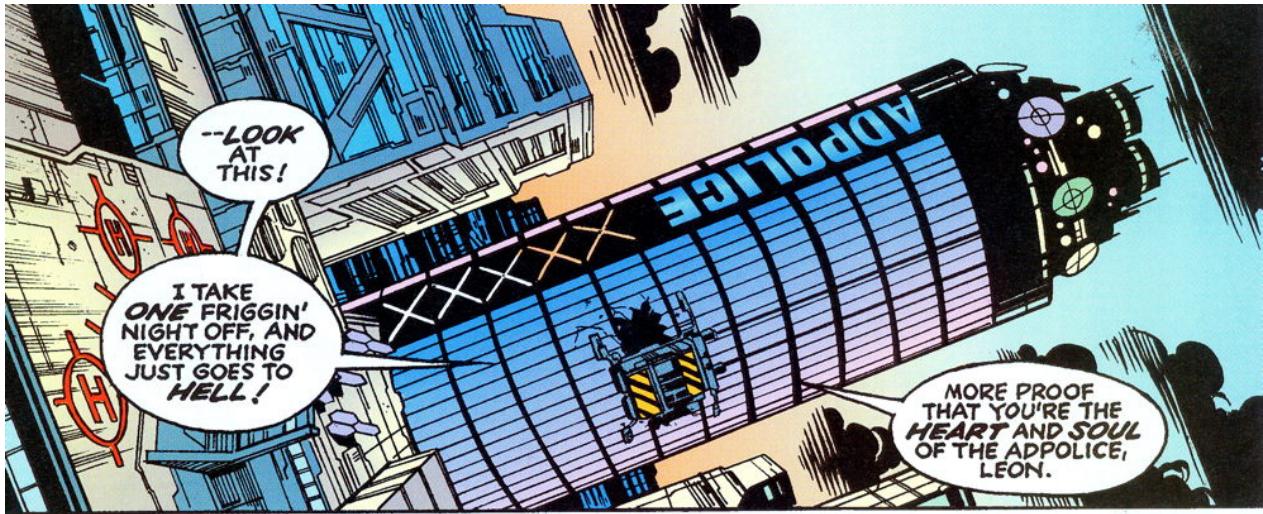




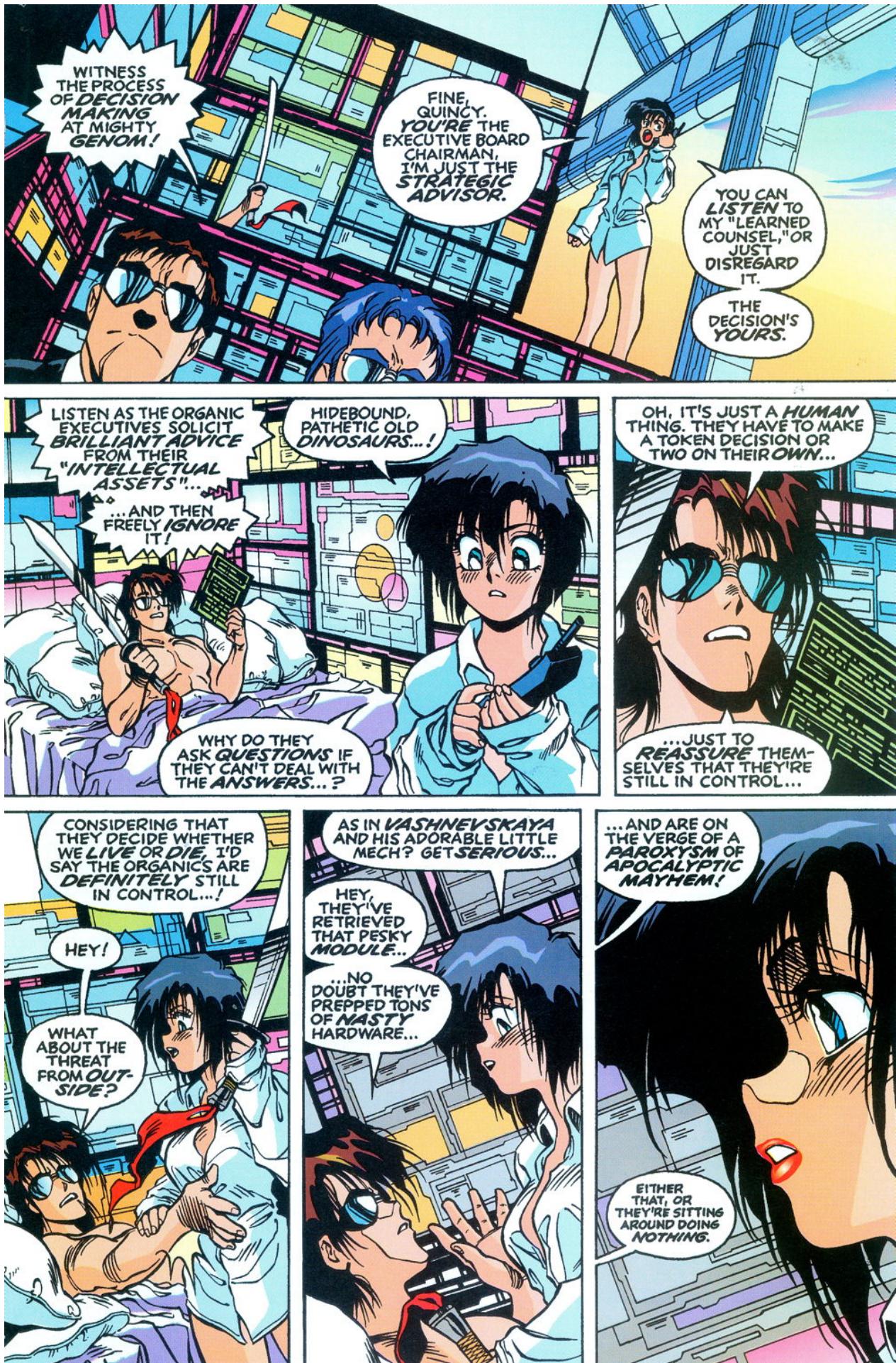


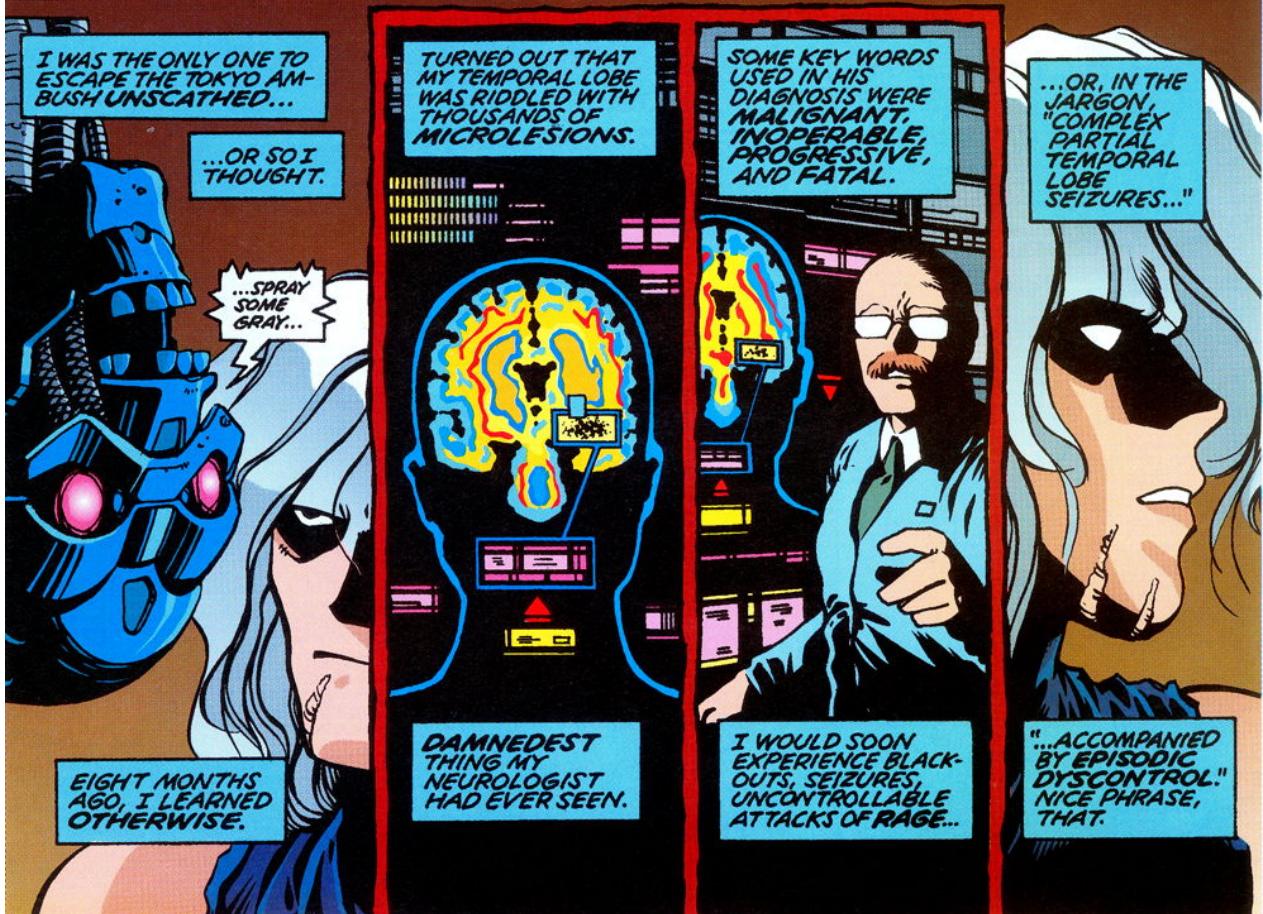
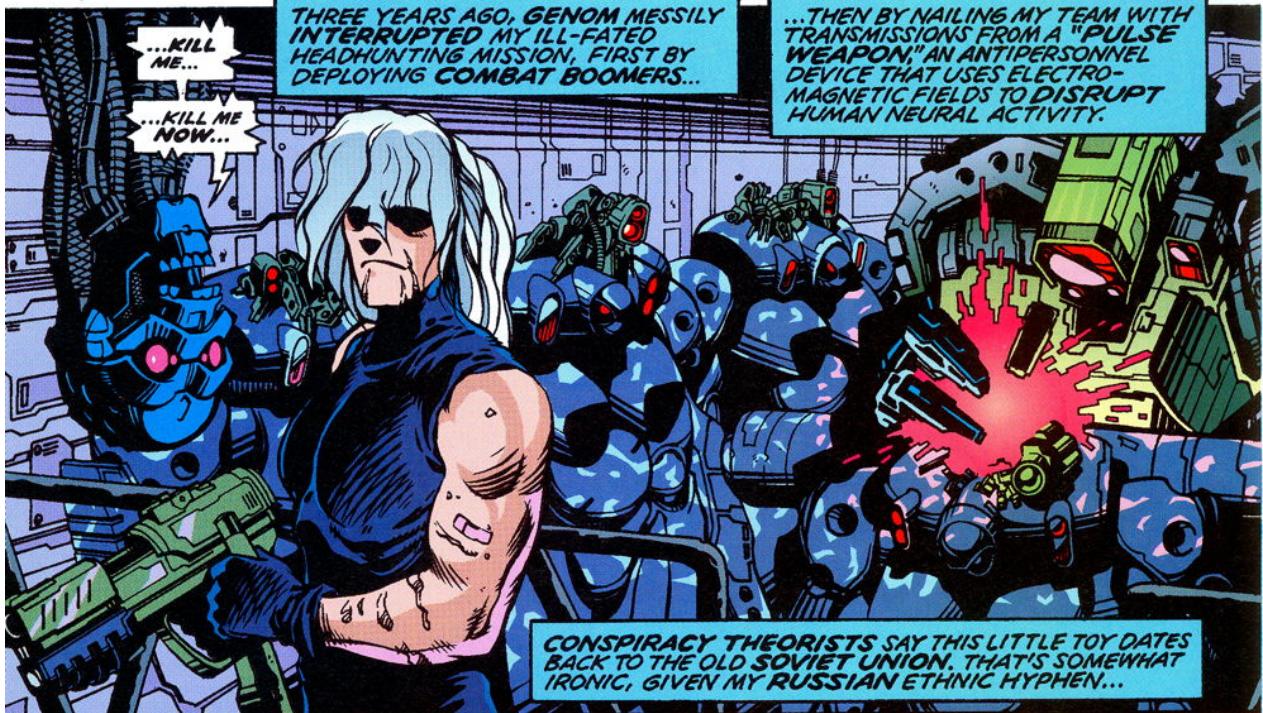
## CHAPTER FOUR

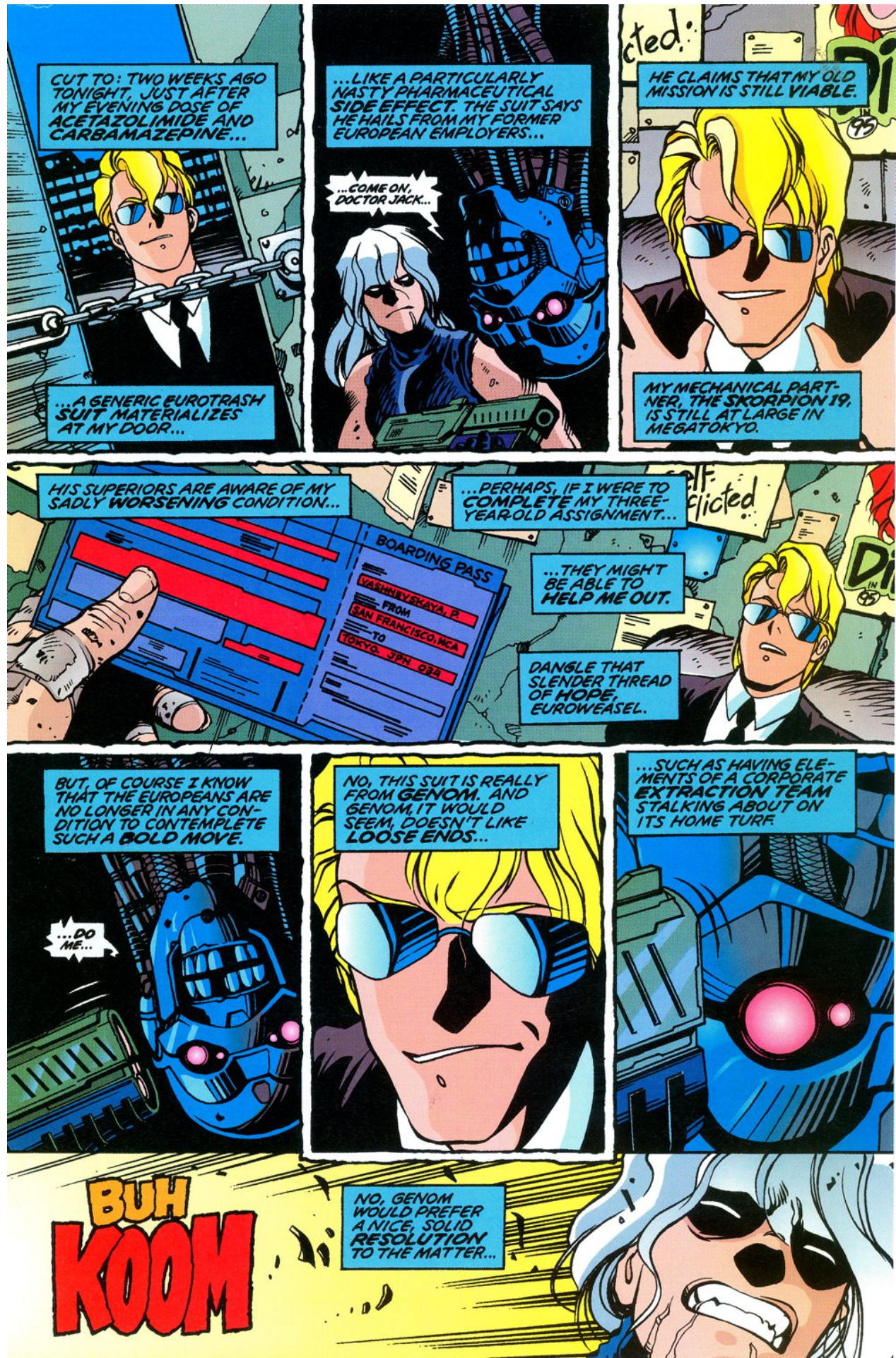


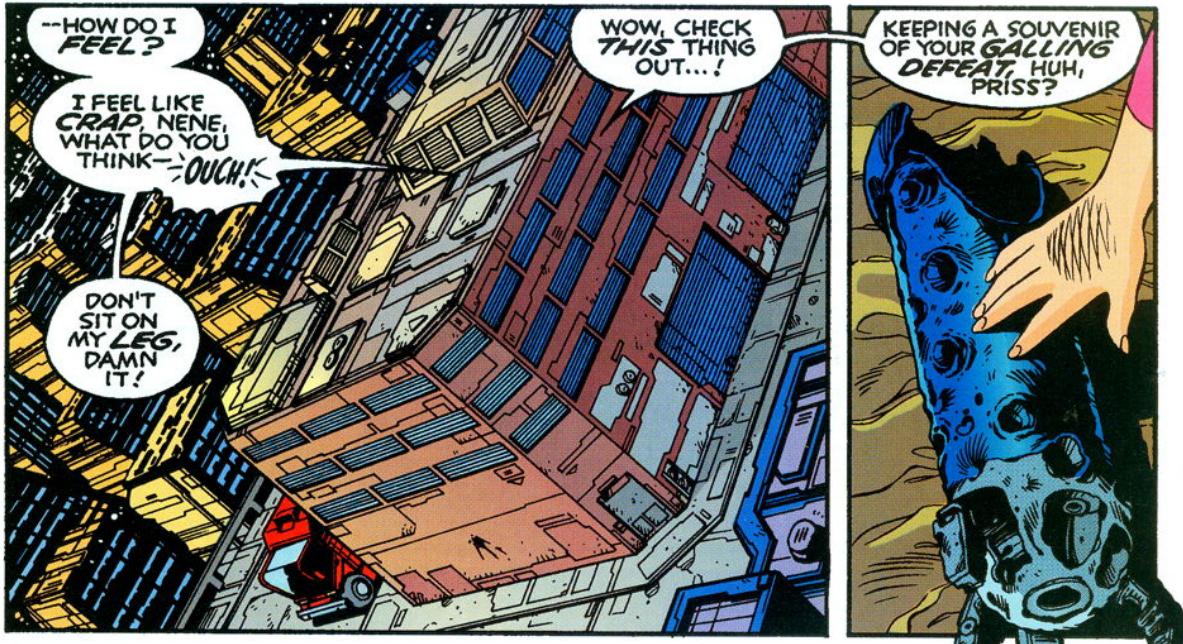


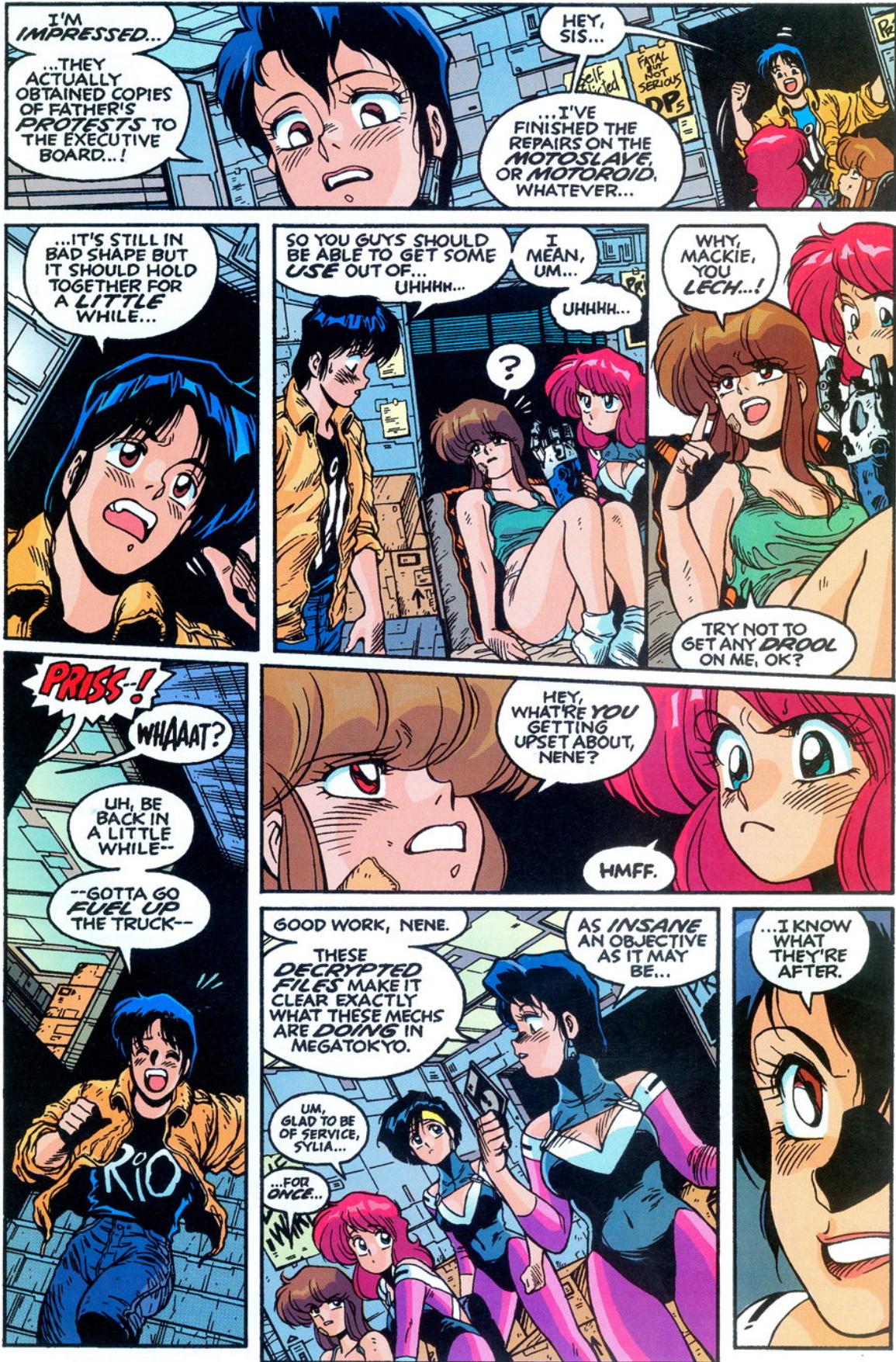


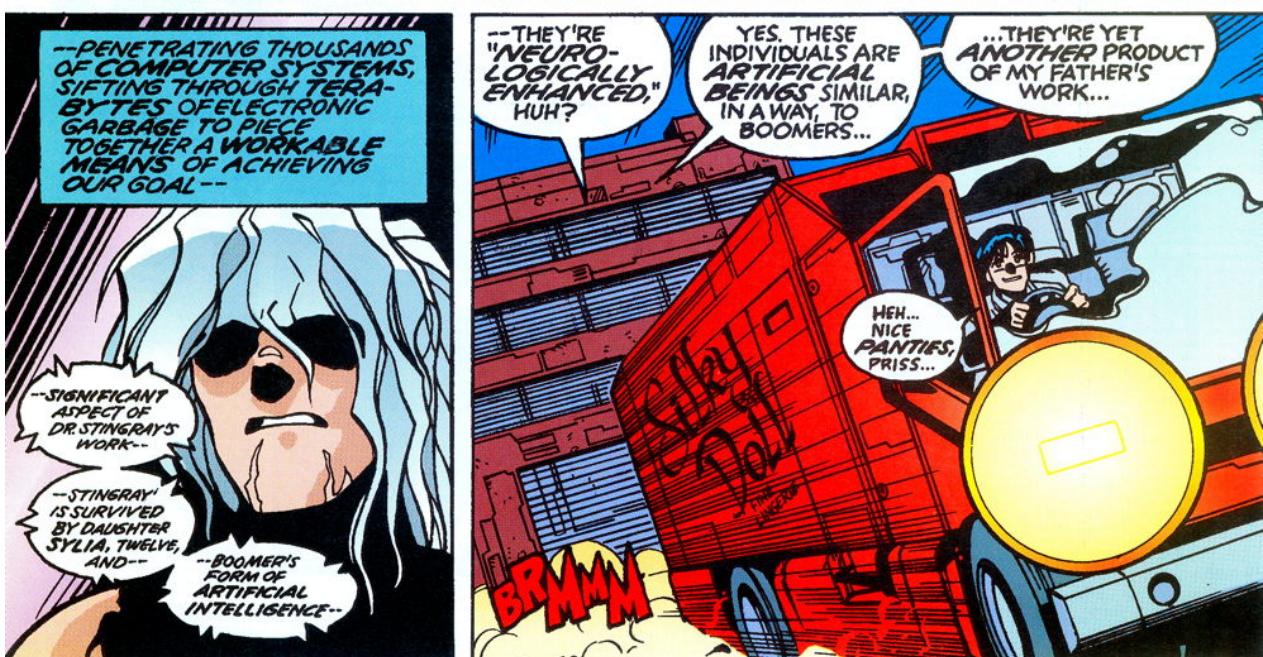
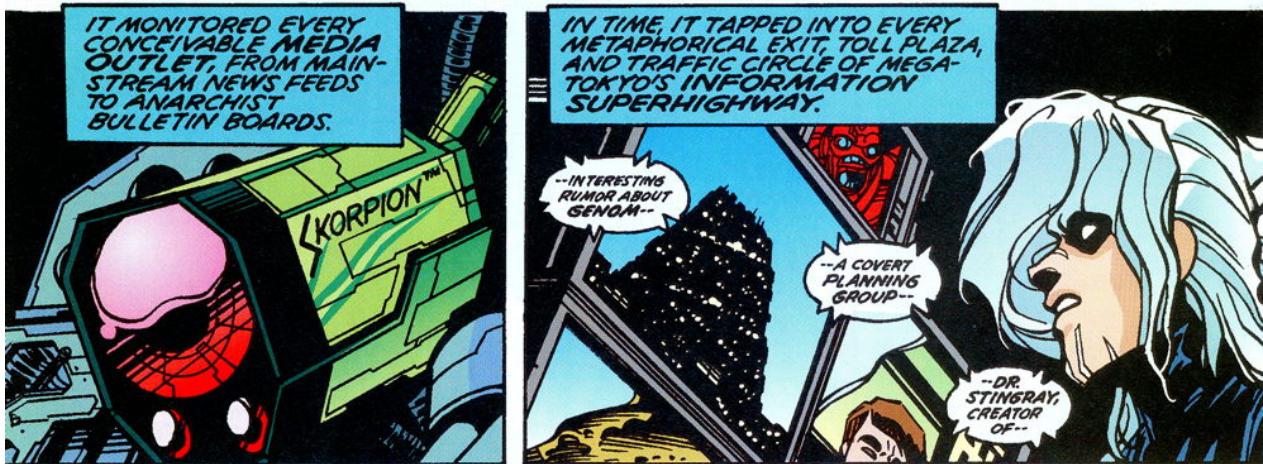
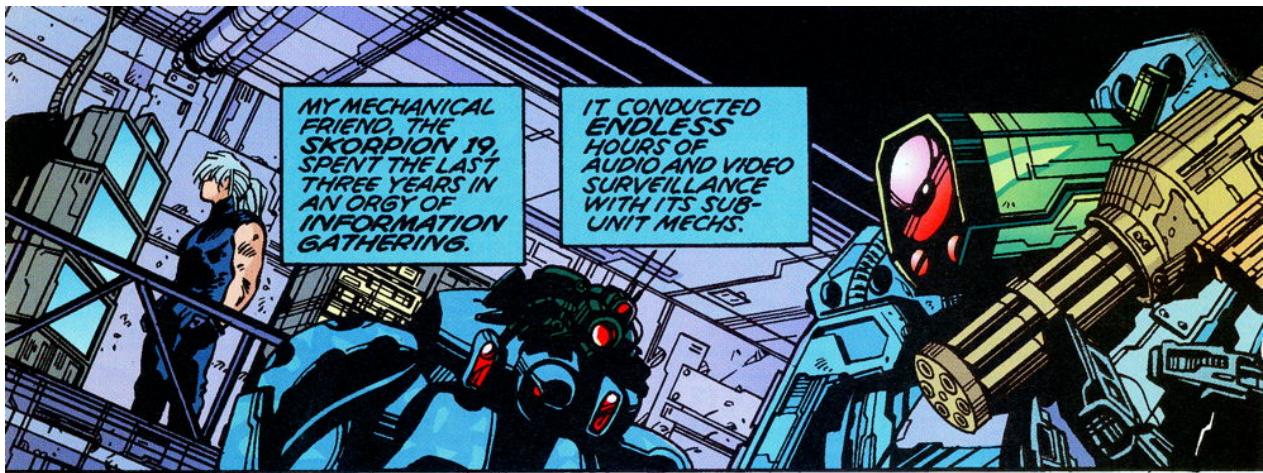


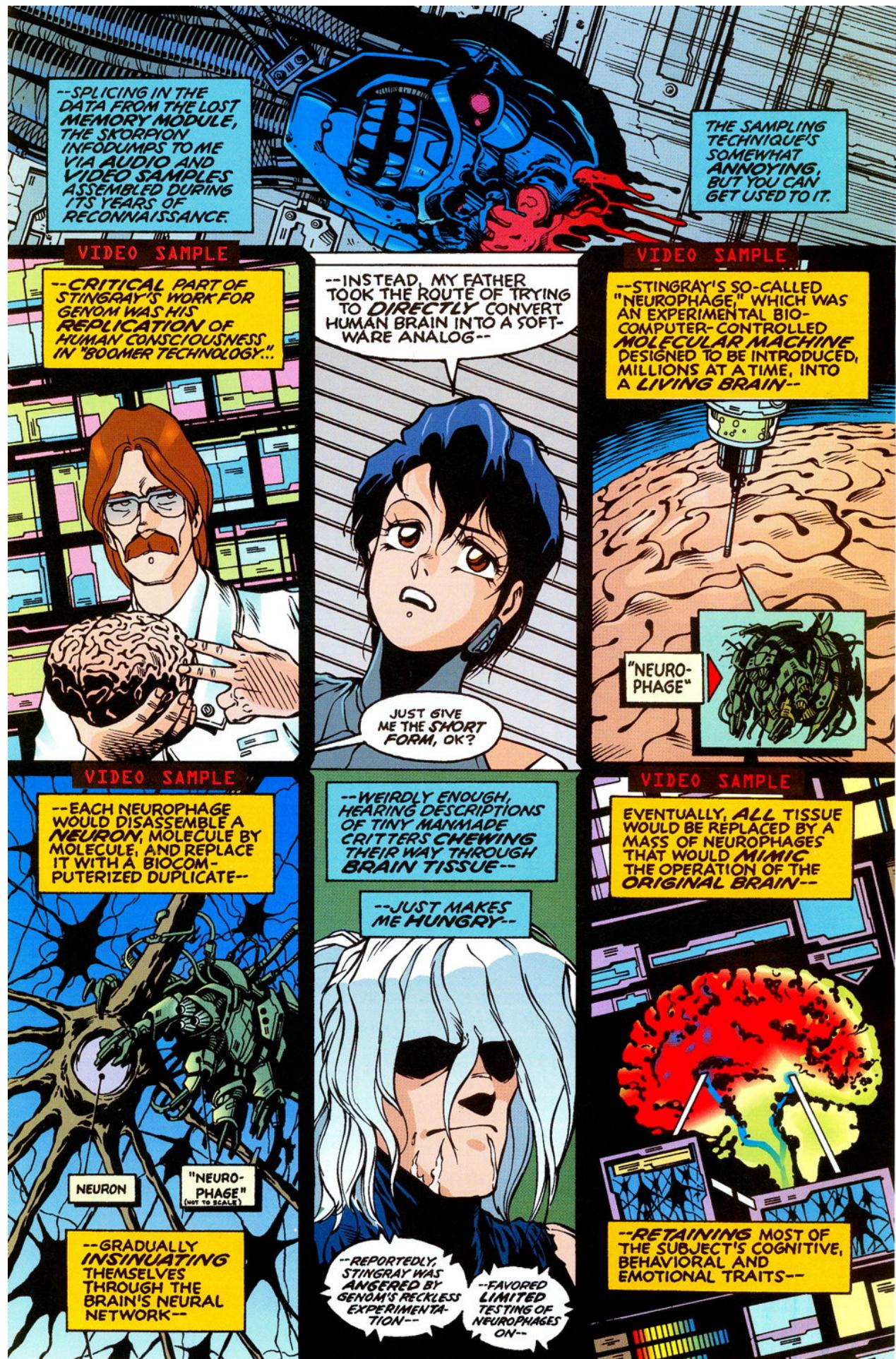












ONCE THE CONVERSION WAS COMPLETE, EACH INDIVIDUAL NEUROPHAGE COULD DOWNLOAD ITS PARTICULAR DATA TO EXTERNAL COUNTERPARTS.

THIS WAY, SEPARATE MASSES OF MOLECULAR BIOCOMPUTERS COULD BE SET UP AS "COPIES" OF THE ORIGINAL BRAIN.

--AFTER FATHER'S DEATH, GENOM CARRIED THROUGH ON HIS THEORIES--

--AND CREATED SEVERAL BEINGS WITH GREATLY ENHANCED COGNITIVE AND INTUITIVE POWERS--



AMAZINGLY, THE SKORPION'S DISCOVERED A WAY TO CAPTURE ONE OF THESE "POSTHUMAN INTELLECTS"...

...THOUGH, ALAS, THIS BREAK-THROUGH'S COME TOO LATE TO HELP OUR ORIGINAL EMPLOYERS.

OH, WELL.

### VIDEO SAMPLE

--REPORTEDLY, DR. STINGRAY OBJECTED TO GENOM'S USE OF SIMPLIFIED, AND THEREBY UNSTABLE, VERSIONS OF HIS WORK IN THE PRODUCTION BOOMERS--

--BUT DOC STINGRAY HAD BOLDER AIM THAN MERELY REPLICATING HUMAN INTELLIGENCE.

NO, HE ACTUALLY WANTED TO DESIGN AN IMPROVED MODEL--

--HE REASONED THAT INFINITE FLEXIBILITY AND NEW MODES OF THOUGHTS COULD BE ACHIEVED BY CONTROLLING THE NEUROPHAGES' ARRANGEMENTS--

### VIDEO SAMPLE

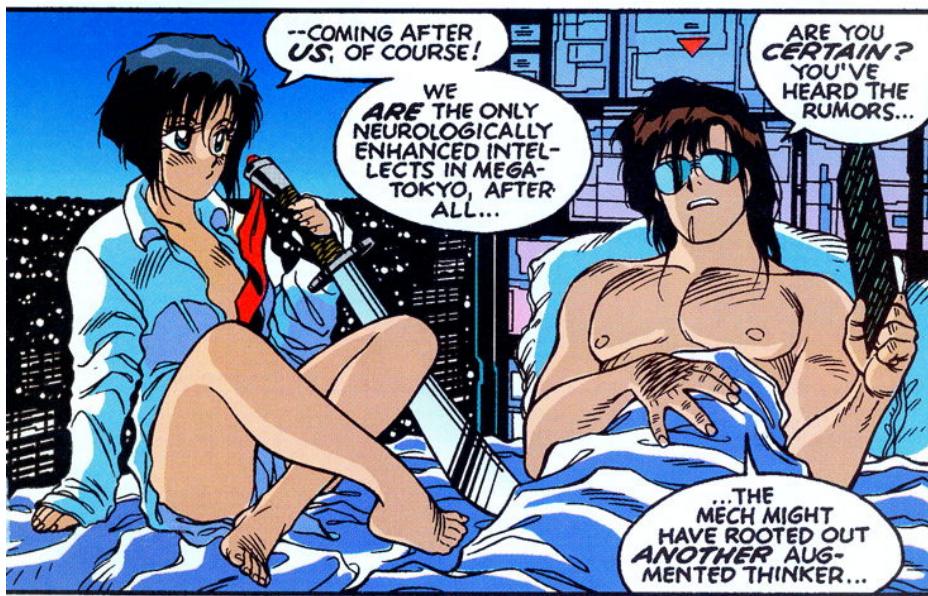
--HAS GENOM BEEN UTILIZING THE "NEUROLOGICALLY ENHANCED" TO DEFINE ITS CORPORATE STRATEGY?

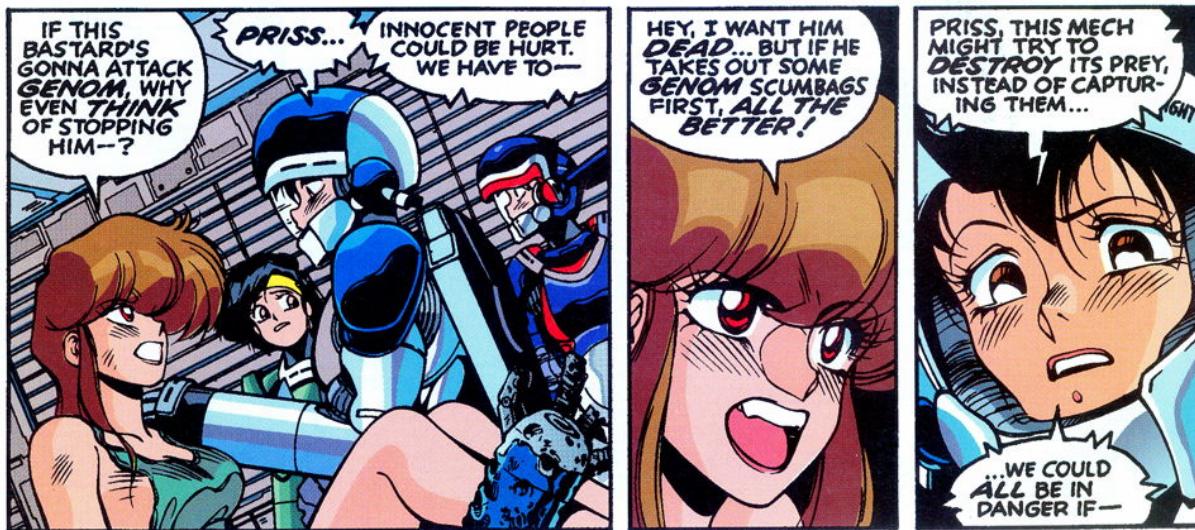
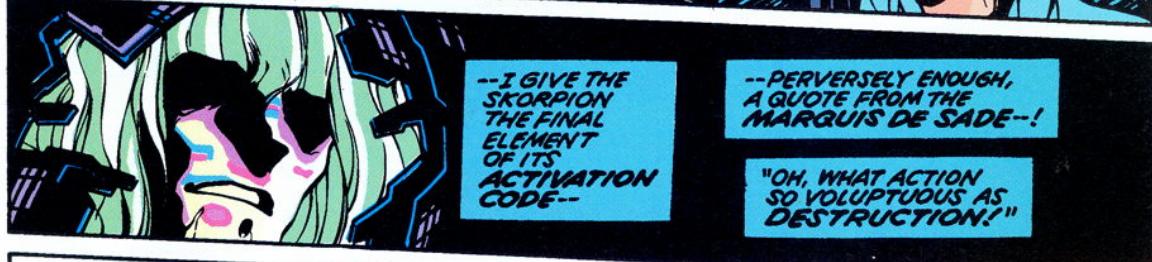
--AND YET, SOMEHOW, I STILL DON'T FEEL APPRECIATED BY THOSE CRETINS ON THE EXECUTIVE BOARD!

SOURCES CLAIM THAT MUCH OF THE MEGA-CORPORATION'S STUNNING WORLDWIDE SUCCESS MAY BE DUE TO THESE ULTRA SECRET "INTELLECTUAL ASSETS"--

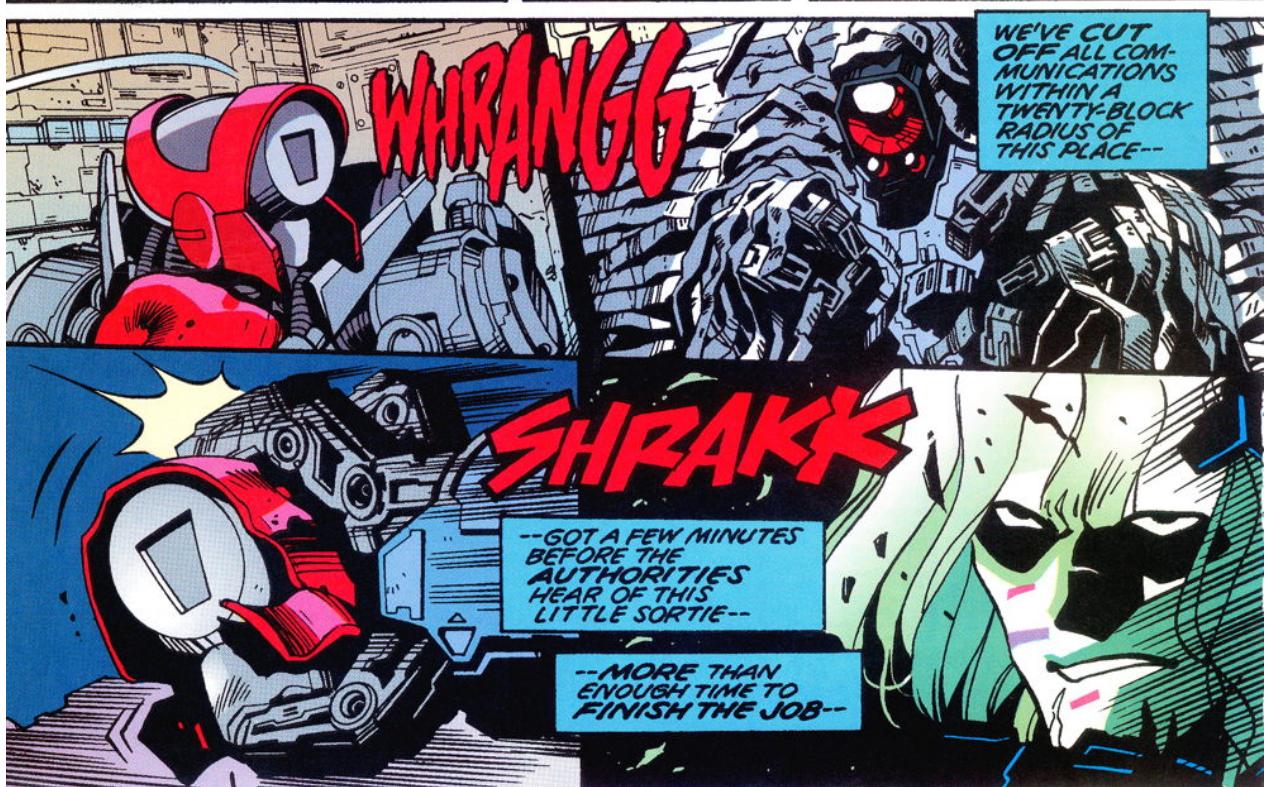
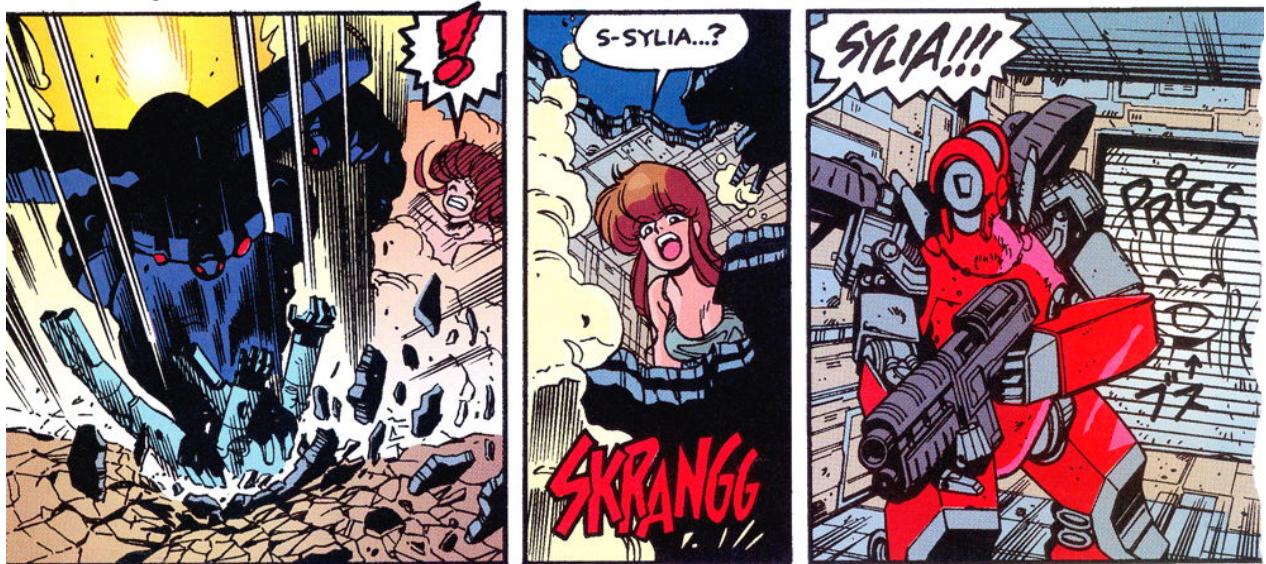
THAT'S IT, EMBRACE THE PAIN.

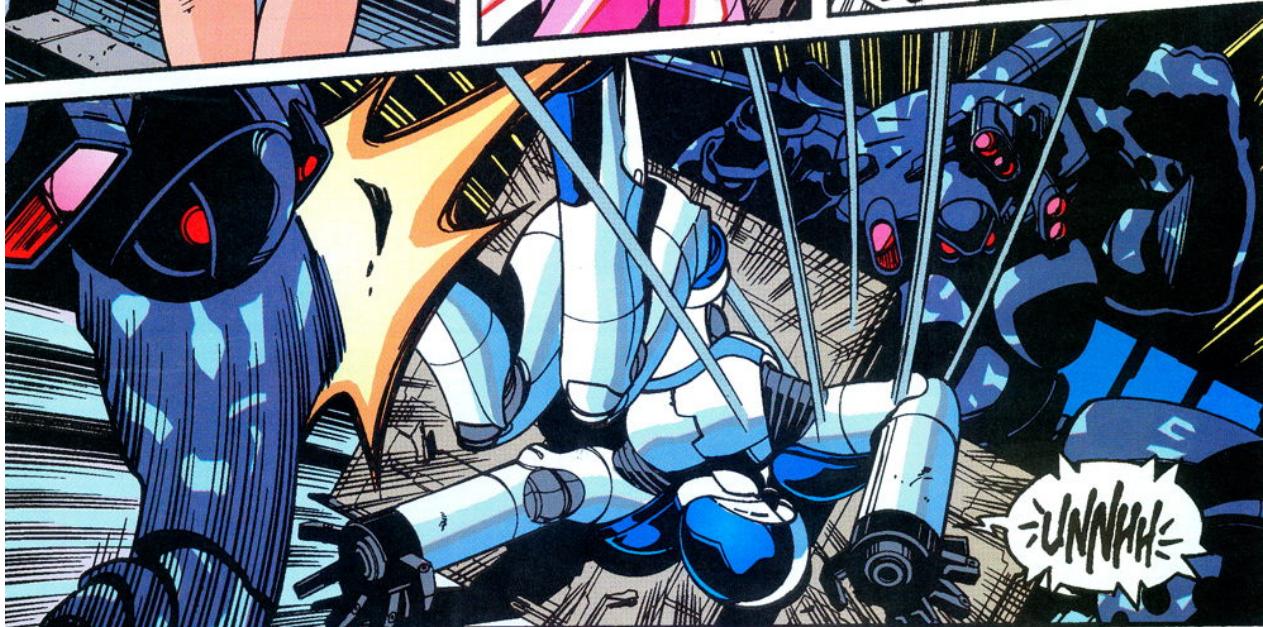
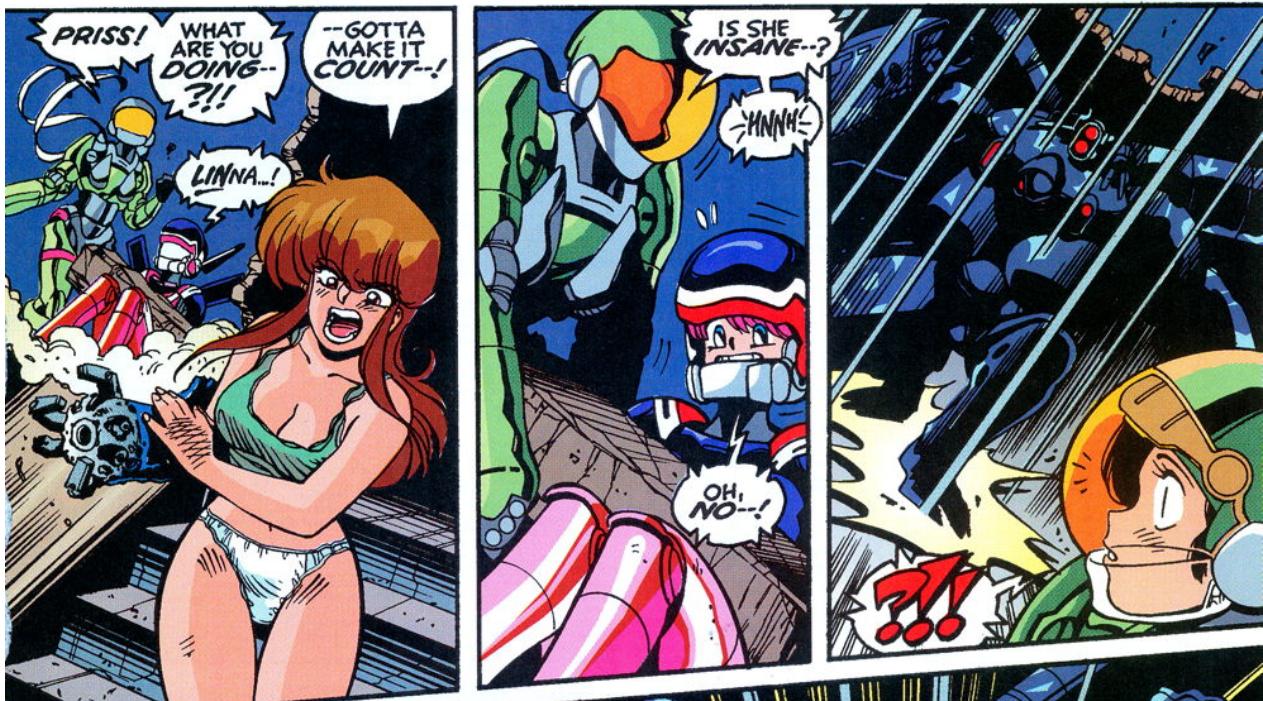
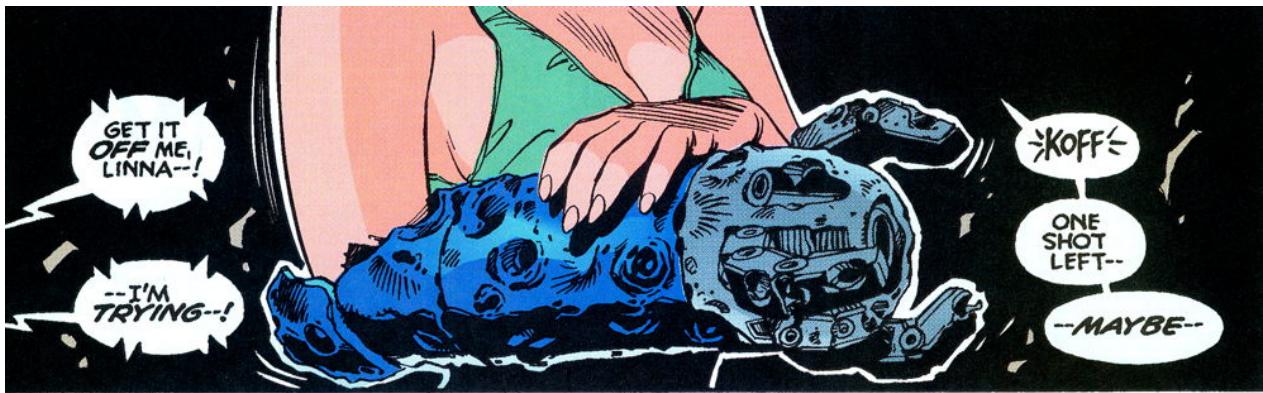
VREEEE

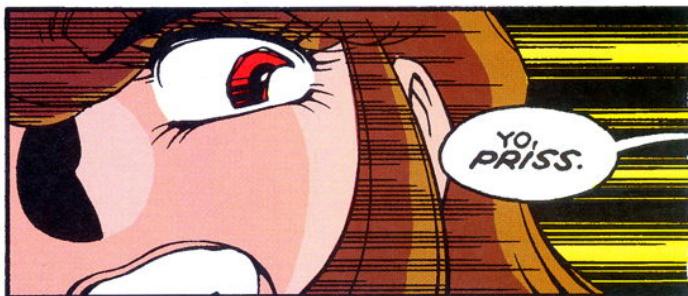
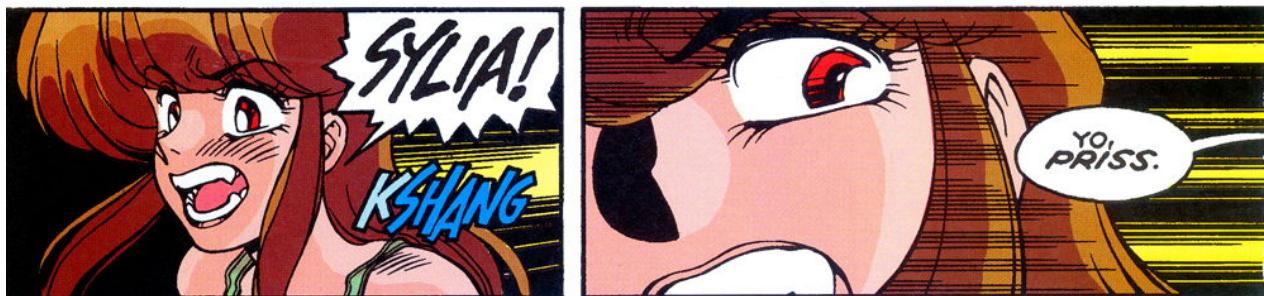
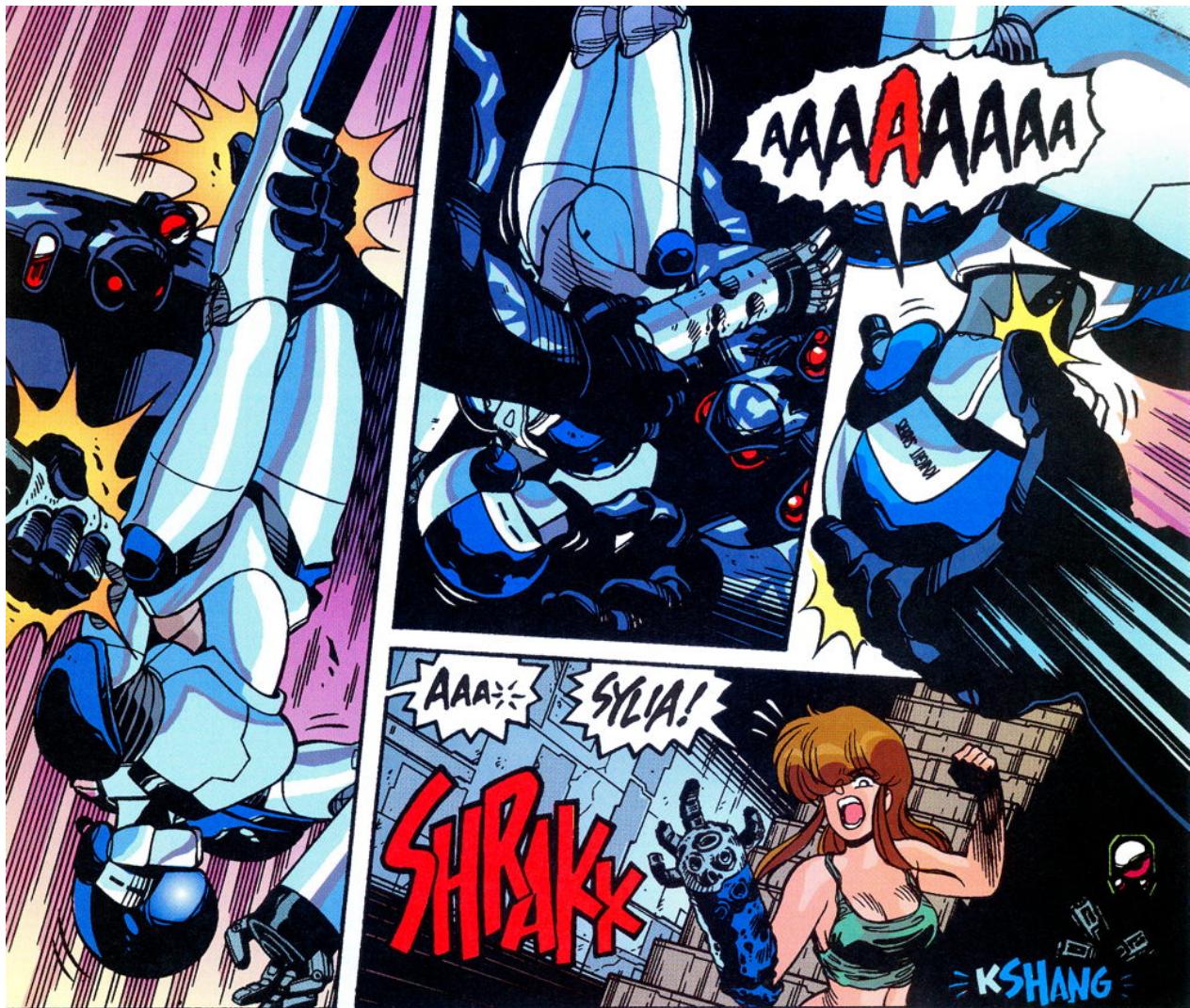


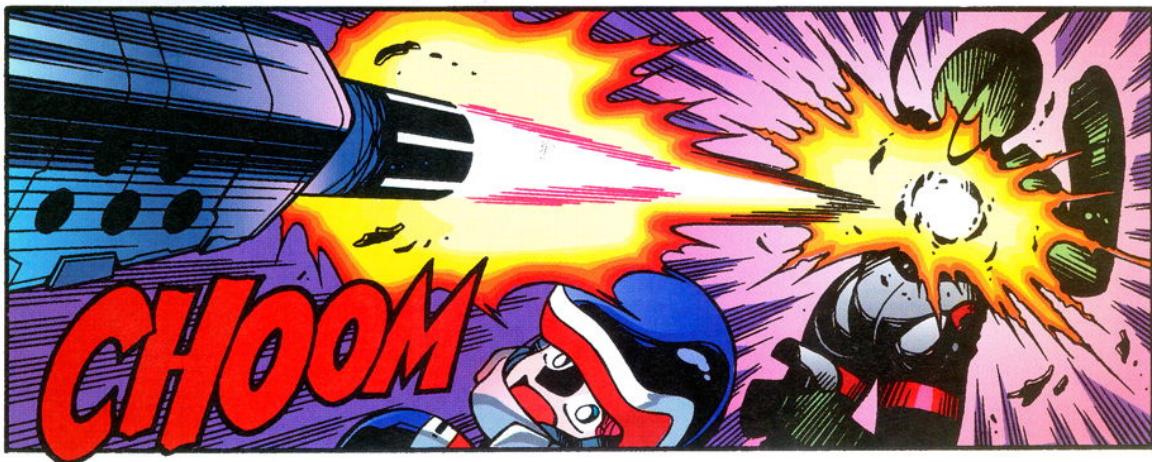
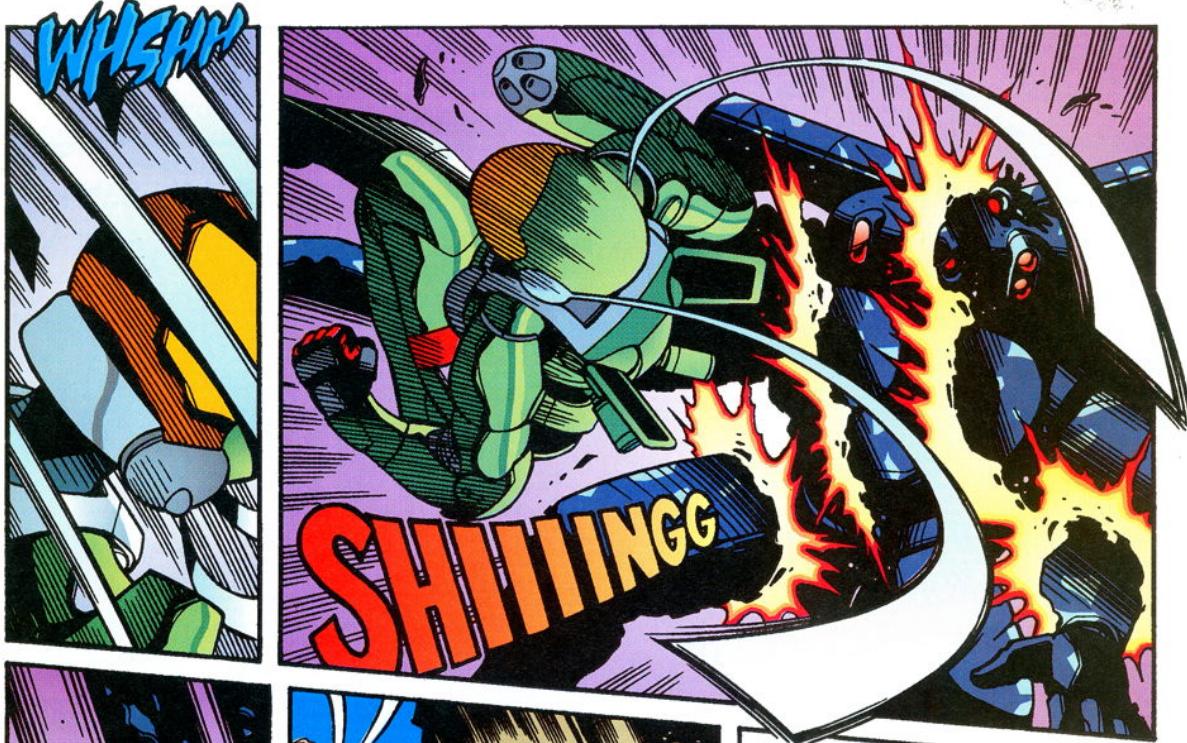


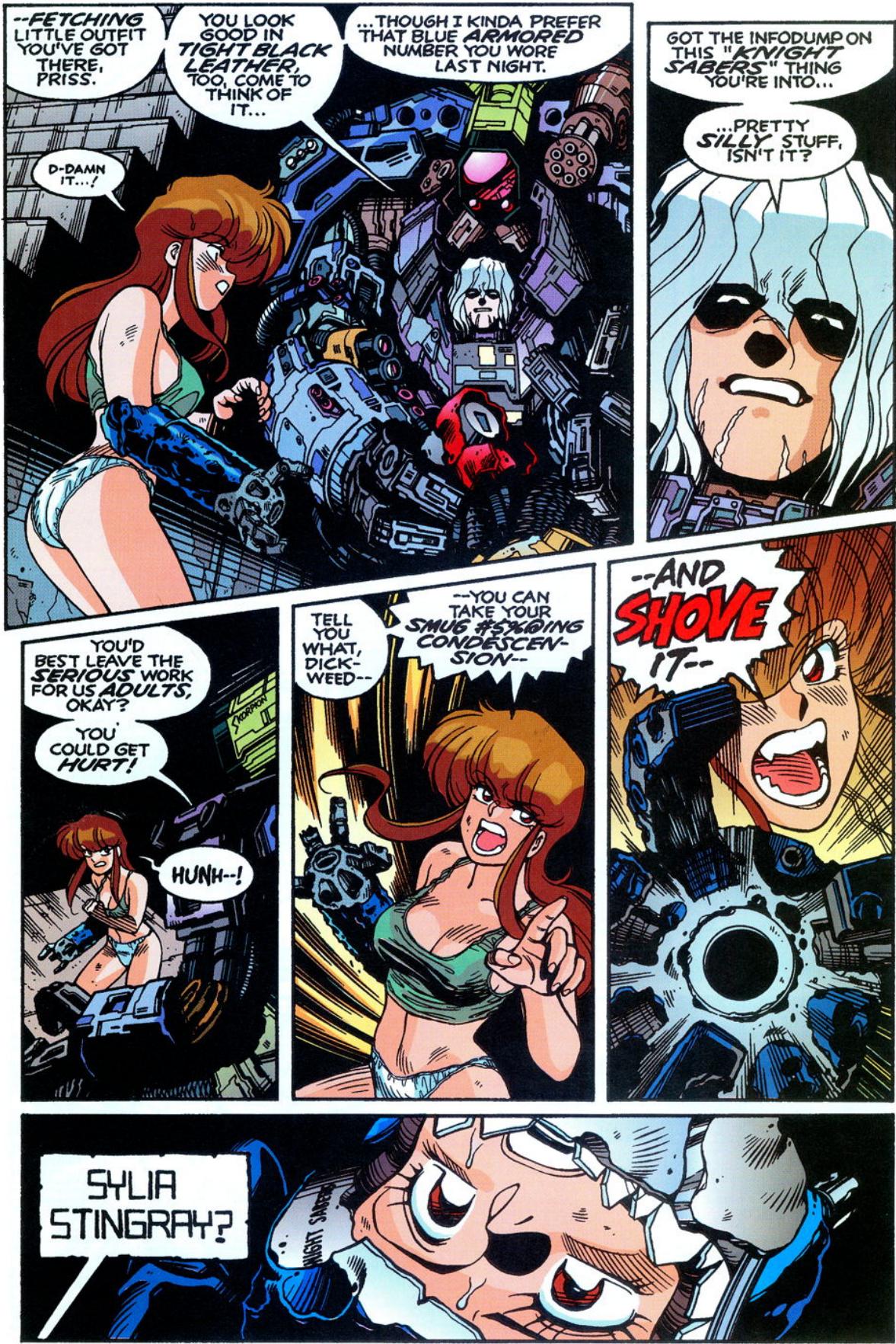






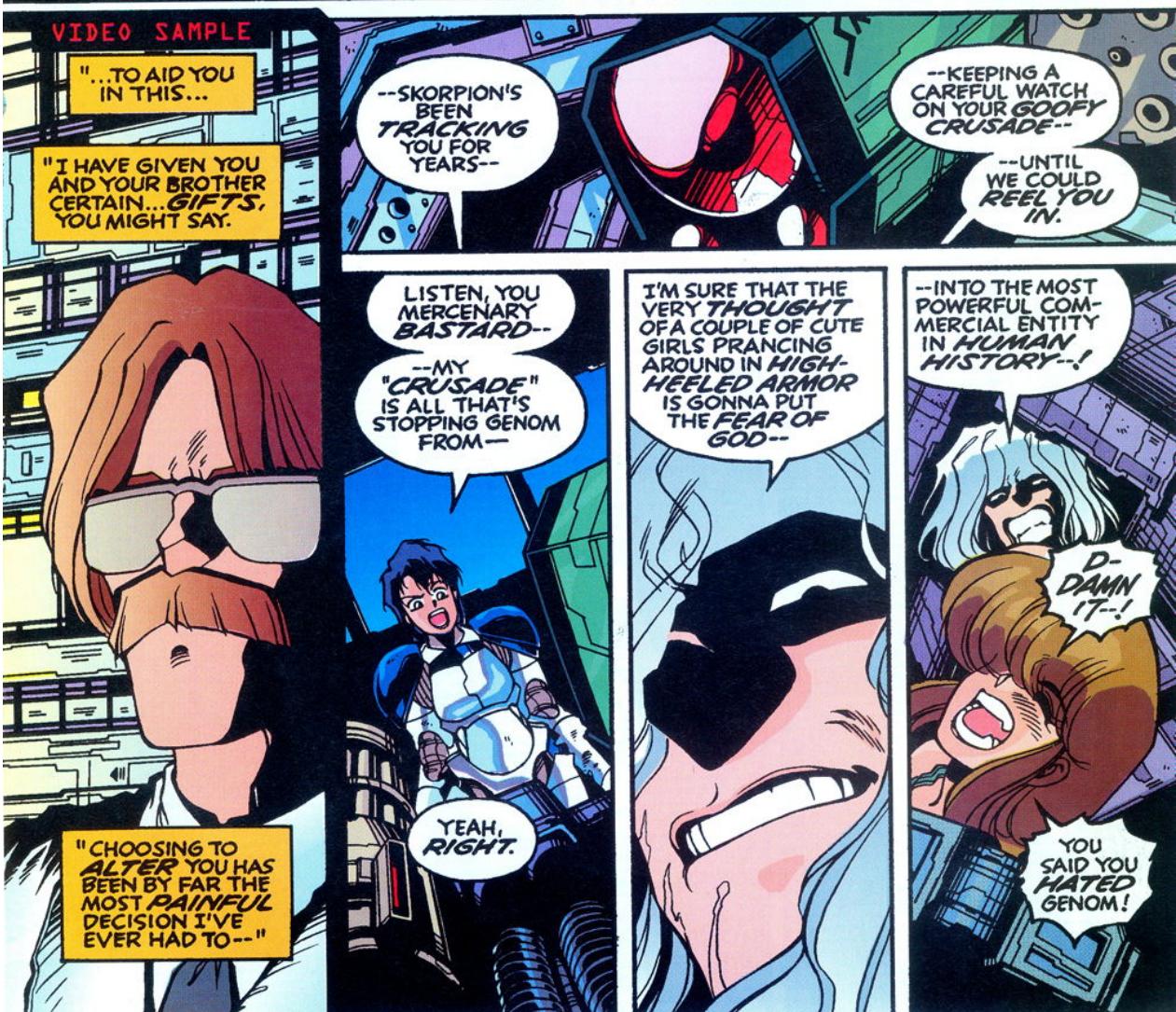
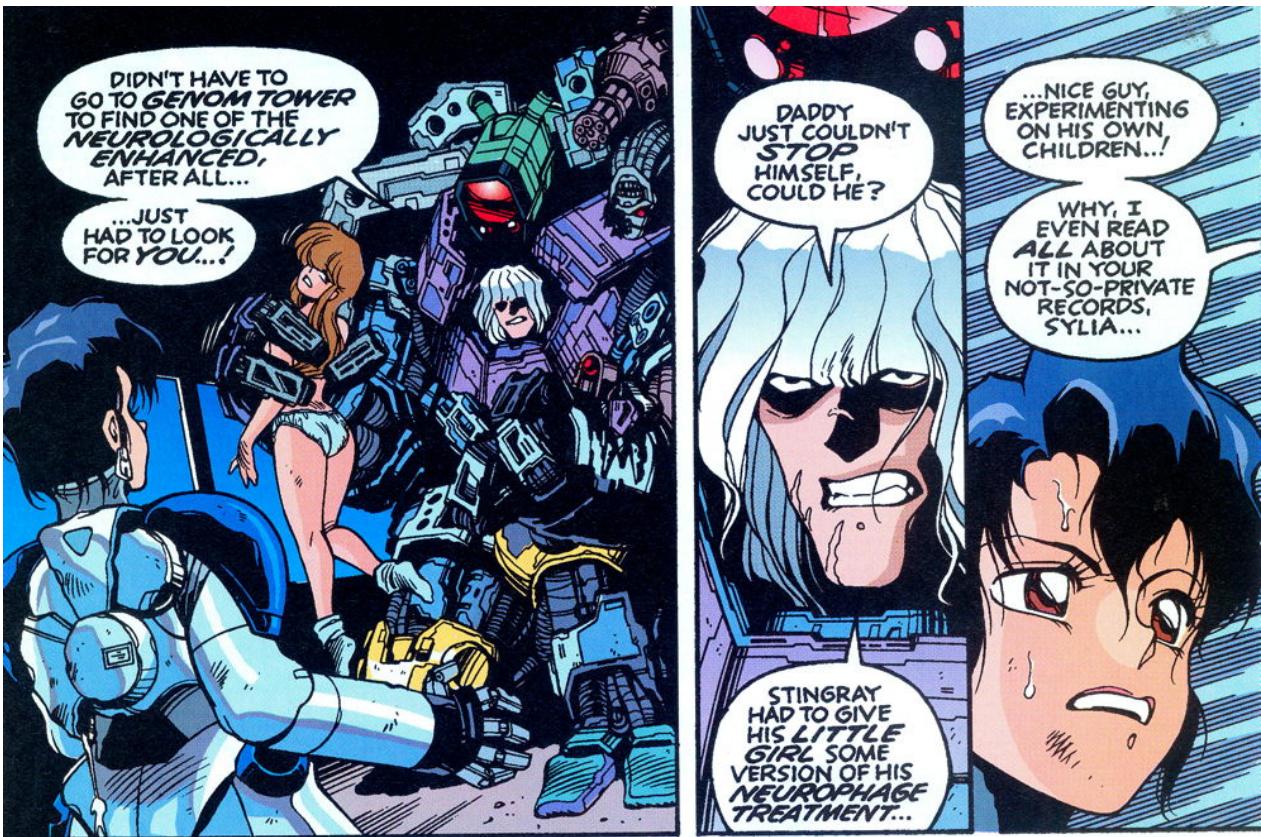


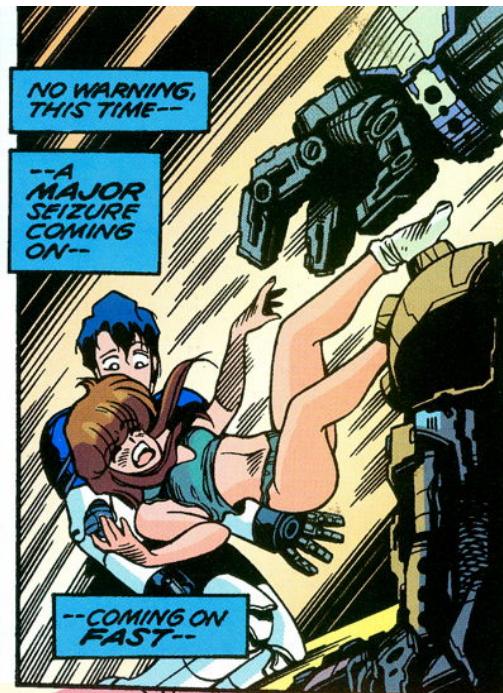


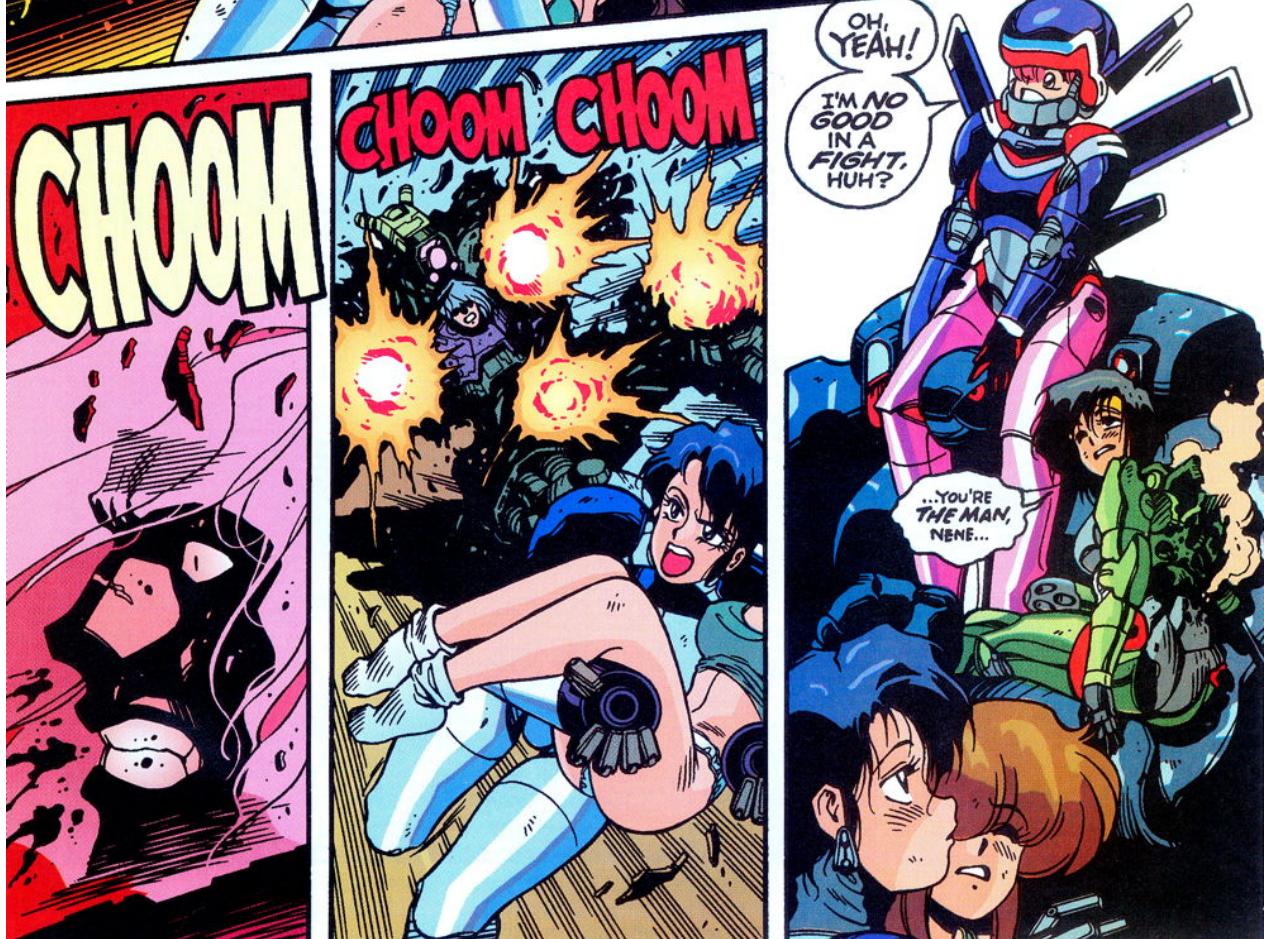


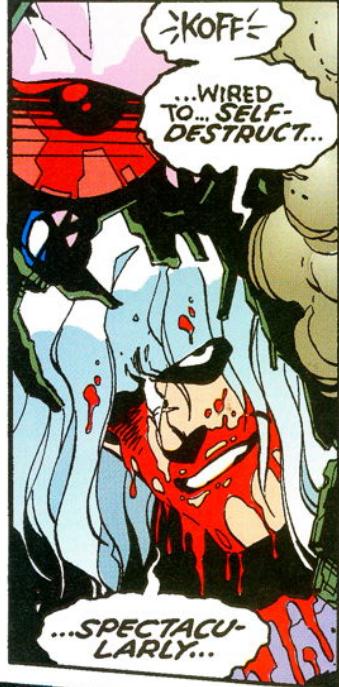






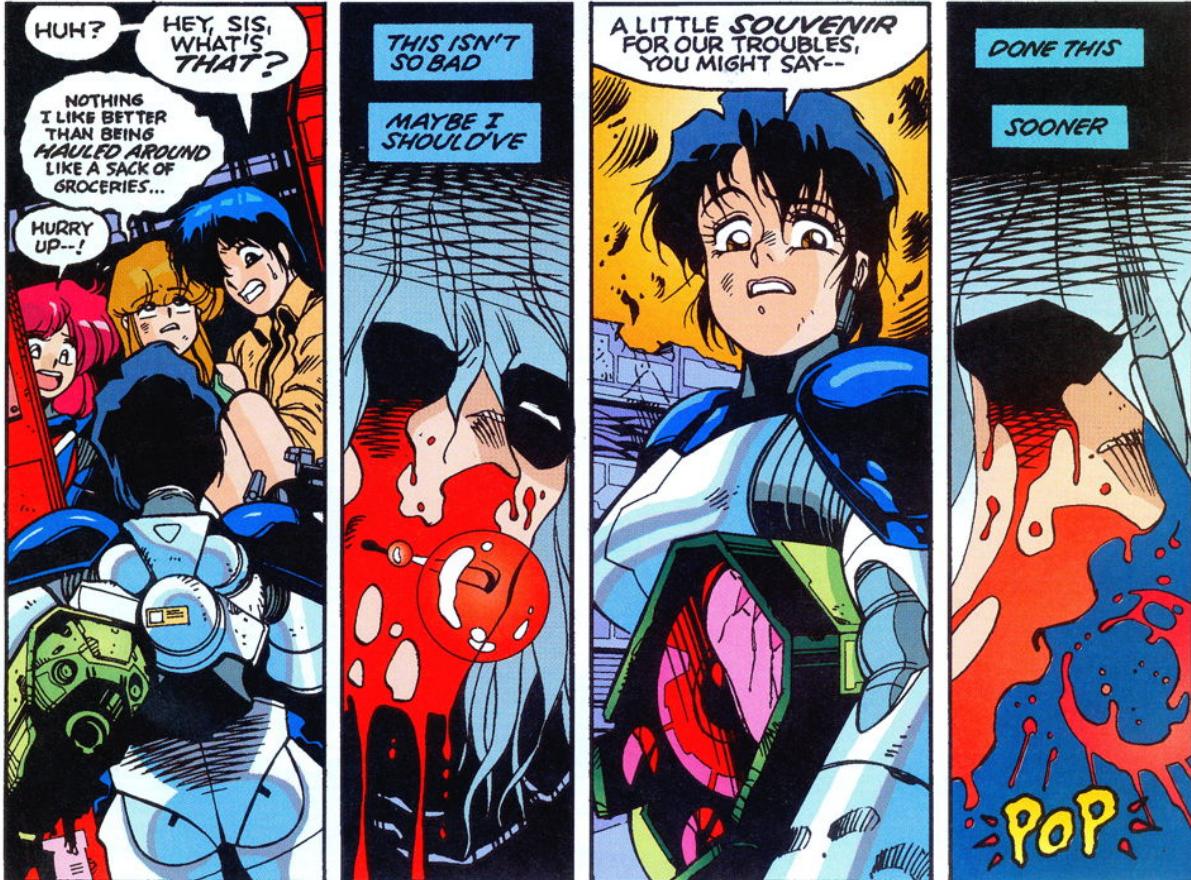
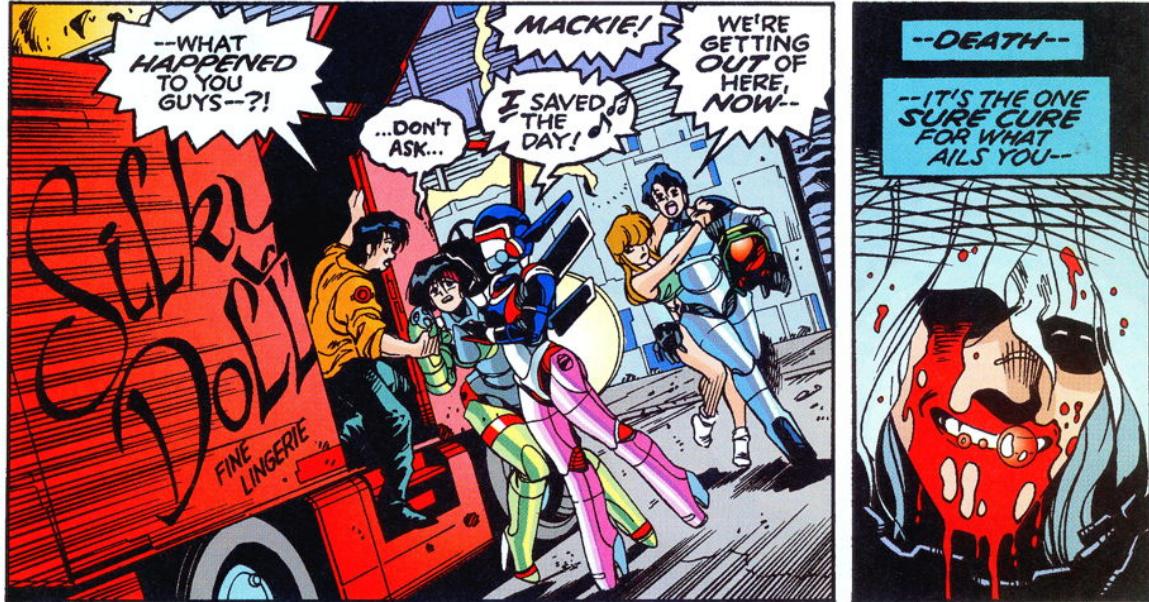
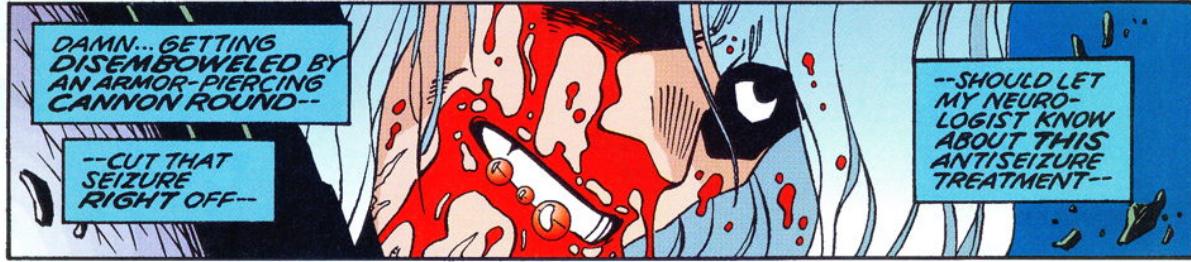


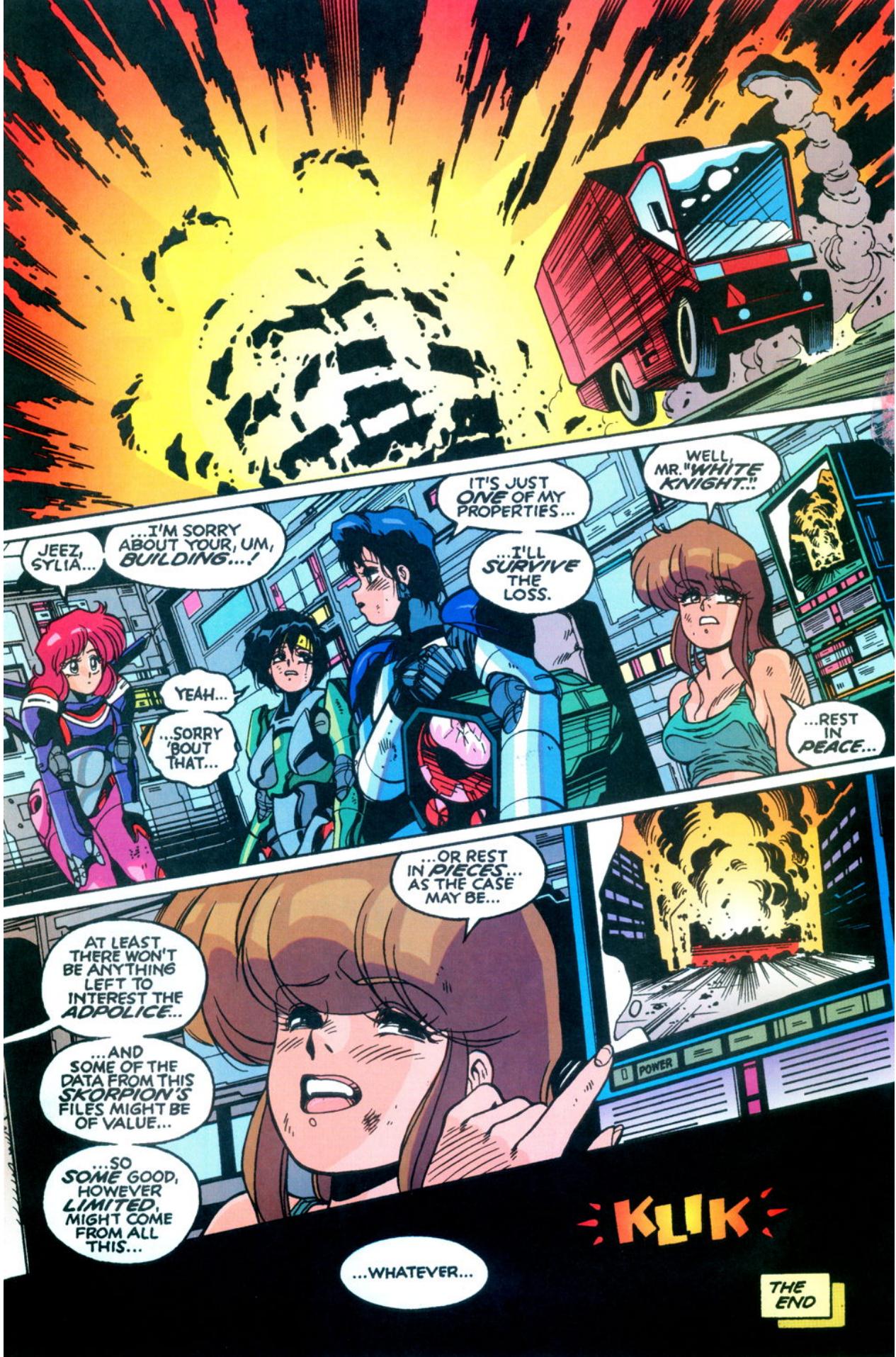




UM, SYLIA...?  
FROM WHAT MY  
SENSORS ARE  
PICKING UP,  
HE'S NOT  
KIDDING...!







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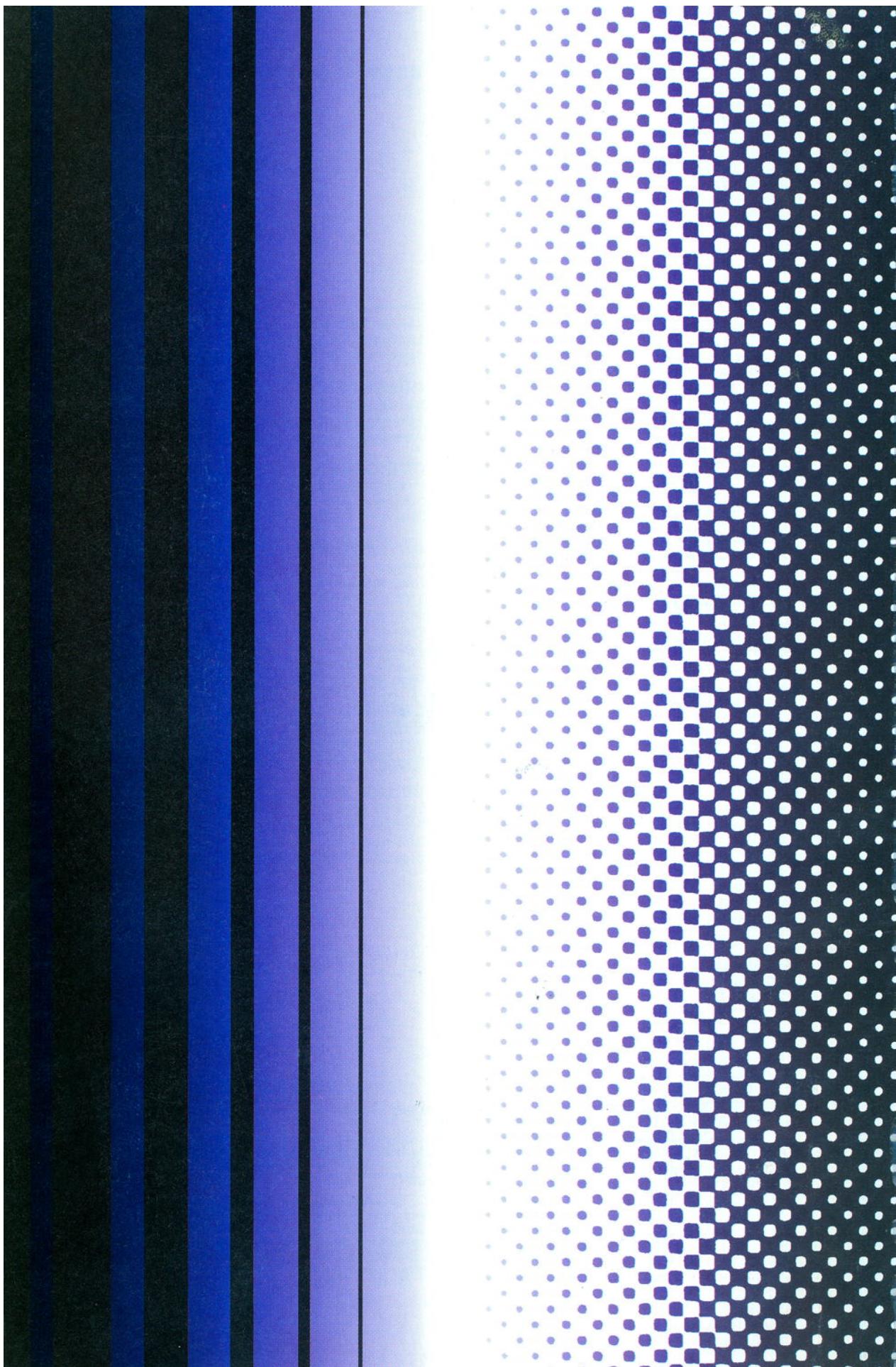
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